



Program Application

The McNair Scholars is a federally funded TRiO program requiring the information below to determine eligibility. All information supplied is kept strictly confidential by federal, state, and SSU standards.

The McNair Scholars Program has been designed to support only 27 SSU undergraduate students per year, and acceptance into the program is competitive. There is no formal deadline at this time; however, space in the program is limited, so please submit your application as soon as possible.

STUDENT INFORMATION

Full Legal Name: SSU ID #:
Preferred Name: Date of Birth:
Preferred Pronouns:
Permanent Address:

Current/Local Address:

SSU E-mail: Other E-mail:
Cell Number:

ACADEMIC INFORMATION

What is your current grade level at SSU (i.e. first-year, sophomore, junior, senior)?
Expected Month/Year of Graduation from Sonoma State:
What is your officially declared undergraduate major(s)/minor?
What is your planned graduate school major?
Do you plan to pursue a graduate degree directly after earning your undergraduate degree? Yes No

(Note: The McNair Scholars program is not currently accepting applications from students who are pursuing MD, DO, Nursing, JD, or MBA degrees)

CITIZENSHIP INFORMATION

Are you a U.S. citizen or permanent resident? Yes No

If you answered “No” to the question above, please answer the following:

Are you a permanent resident of the United States? Yes No

If you are not yet a permanent resident, are you in the U.S for other than a temporary purpose with the intent of becoming a permanent resident?

Yes No

If you are in the process of becoming a permanent resident, please provide evidence from the Immigration and Naturalization Service with your intent to become a permanent resident.

ELIGIBILITY

Students are eligible to participate in the McNair Scholars program if they are a low-income **and** first-generation college student of any race/ethnicity, **OR** they belong to at least one of the groups underrepresented in graduate education (African-American, Latino/a, Native Hawaiian/Pacific Islander, or Native American), regardless of income status and parental educational attainment level; however, two-thirds of each McNair Scholars cohort must be first-generation and low-income students. Applicants also must have completed 60-semester units and have a cumulative minimum GPA of 3.0.

1. **Ethnicity Status** (please select all that apply)

American Indian/Alaskan Native

Asian

Black or African-American

Hispanic or Latino

Native Hawaiian or Pacific Islander

White

Other (Please Specify)

2. **First-Generation College Student Status** (please check any of the following that apply)

Neither of my parents (biological or adoptive) possess a bachelor’s degree.

Prior to the age of 18, I regularly resided with only one parent, and that parent did not possess a bachelor’s degree.

Prior to the age of 18, I did not regularly reside with or receive support from a biological or adoptive parent.

Prior to the age of 18, at least one of the parents with whom I resided possessed a bachelor’s degree.

None of the above

3. Income Status

Are you eligible to receive Financial Aid at Sonoma State University? Yes No

We will obtain information from the financial aid office in order to verify your income status. We may also ask for further documentation after we review your financial aid information.

RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

The following questions help us to determine in what ways we can best serve the McNair Scholars. Previous research experience and/or knowledge of the graduate school application process is not considered, nor is it required, as an eligibility factor.

Have you participated in research at the undergraduate level? Yes No

If you answered yes, please tell us about the research: when it was conducted, in what discipline, and whether it was supported by a faculty advisor.

SUPPLEMENTAL APPLICATION MATERIALS

In addition to this application, please submit the following:

- **Unofficial transcripts** from SSU and/or any other institution where you have earned more than 20 units of academic credit.
- **Essay 1 & Essay 2** (see below for instructions).

Please attach your typed responses to the following prompts in separate documents (500-1000 words each). Please make sure to answer each component of the prompt in your response.

Essay 1:

Explain your reasons for pursuing a graduate degree. If selected to be a McNair Scholar, what research topic(s) would you be interested in researching and how is this research related to your educational/career goals? How will the McNair Scholars Program assist you in making your educational/career goals possible?

Essay 2:

Tell us your story (your family background, journey to college, challenges you have faced and overcome, etc.). How has your personal background prepared you for the rigors of the McNair Scholars program as well as graduate-level study.

FACULTY RECOMMENDATION

A recommendation from a faculty member in your major (or minor) is required as part of the application process. **Please contact your recommender immediately** and provide them with the McNair Faculty Recommendation Form available on the [Application page of the McNair Scholars website](#). Please advise your recommender that the completed form should be emailed directly to Dr. Daniel Malpica: daniel.malpica@sonoma.edu.

Your recommendation should be from a faculty member in your major (or minor) who can address your academic

ability and potential. If you are unable to get a recommendation from faculty in your major (or minor), please contact us to discuss other options.

SUBMITTING YOUR APPLICATION

Your completed application and supplemental materials should be emailed to Dr. Daniel Malpica, McNair Scholars Program Director, at daniel.malpica@sonoma.edu.

Please name your files consistently using the following naming convention: Last Name_First Name_Title of Document (e.g. Malpica_Daniel_Essay 1, Malpica_Daniel_Transcripts, etc.)

By checking this box, I certify that all information on this application is true and accurate to the best of my knowledge. I further understand that any false statements may result in denial or revocation of this application.

Name:

Date:

If you have any questions about the application, or the program, please contact Dr. Daniel Malpica at daniel.malpica@sonoma.edu or call 707-664-2264.