

TRiO

RONALD E. McNAIR
POST-BACCALAUREATE
ACHIEVEMENT PROGRAM



SCHOLARS PROGRAM

SUFFOLK UNIVERSITY

Preparing for a new generation of scholars

Program Application

2017 – 2018

Due March 30, 2018

WELCOME TO THE SUFFOLK UNIVERSITY MCNAIR SCHOLARS PROGRAM!

The McNair Scholars Program at Suffolk University is a federally funded project designed to increase the number of underrepresented individuals pursuing doctoral study. During the academic year, the McNair Scholars are prepared for graduate work through involvement in research, faculty mentoring, academic colloquia series, and other scholarly activities. The McNair Scholars Program works closely with all program participants to achieve a high level of educational success and to complete their undergraduate requirements. All program activities prepare the program participants to be viable candidates for the McNair Summer Research Institute – a summer program designed to develop and conduct an independent research project under the supervision of a faculty mentor at Suffolk University. Program participants are expected to enroll in graduate programs and eventually complete a doctoral degree.

Eligibility and Selection Criteria

The McNair Scholars Program is highly competitive and serves a maximum of twenty-five students at any given time. New applicants are considered only once current scholars graduate from the university. Given the limited availability of student spots every year, meeting the eligibility requirements does not guarantee admission into the McNair cohort. Letters of recommendation, resumes, and personal statements are assessed by the program admissions committee to identify students who might benefit the most from our program offerings, who may have a strong commitment to undergraduate research, and whose goal is to complete an academic doctorate.

Students are eligible to apply if they are:

- A U.S. Citizen or Permanent Resident
 - A full-time student with at least a 3.0 cumulative GPA
 - A sophomore or junior (with at least 12 months until graduation at time of acceptance)
- And EITHER:
- A first-generation college student who is from a low-income household, **OR**
 - A member of a group underrepresented in graduate study

In addition, students must be willing to participate in the McNair Scholars Summer Research Institute, at least once, before graduation; present their research projects in at least two conferences (McNair or Academic conferences only); and have a commitment to participate in all McNair seminars, workshops, and activities until graduation.

Awards

Students must submit proposals to be admitted into the **McNair Scholars Summer Research Institute**. Scholars participating in this program will receive a monetary stipend upon successful completion of their research and submission of a final manuscript for publication in an undergraduate research journal. Students may also receive travel scholarships to attend conferences and potential graduate programs, waivers for graduate school admissions applications, and use of computing devices.

Application Submission

Please submit your application to: McNair Scholars Program
Center for Academic Access and Opportunity
73 Tremont Street, 7th Floor
Boston, MA 02108

When your application is received, an academic transcript will be requested from the Registrar's Office and a Verification of Family Income will be obtained from the Office of Student Financial Services. Once these documents are reviewed by the program staff, an interview will be conducted with the applicant and a final decision will be made concerning their admission into the program.



Program Staff:

Dr. Joyya Smith, Vice President
Division of Diversity, Access, and Inclusion
617-223-4423 | jsmith19@suffolk.edu

Nathan Roman, Associate Director
McNair Scholars Program
617-994-6861 | nroman@suffolk.edu

Daryl Morazzini, Academic and Research Advisor
McNair Scholars Program
617-994-6863 | dmorazzini@suffolk.edu

Marty Elmore, Program Development Coordinator
Center for Academic Access and Opportunity
617-994-6860 | melmore@suffolk.edu

For any questions, contact the program staff above. Incomplete applications will not be accepted. The McNair Scholars Program is highly competitive; meeting the eligibility requirements does not grant automatic admission into the cohort.

Application Checklist

- Eligibility and Information Release Form
- Application Form
- Personal and Research Statement
- An Academic and Professional Resume
- An Academic Writing Sample (should include references)
- Letter of Recommendation (from faculty member)
- Letter of Recommendation (from faculty, administrator, previous supervisor or anyone else who can speak to your potential to be successful in the program)



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ELIGIBILITY AND RELEASE OF INFORMATION FORM

Full Legal Name: _____ Date Completed: _____

The McNair Scholars Program at Suffolk University is a federally funded TRiO program sponsored by the U.S. Department of Education. This form is provided to determine your eligibility before submitting an application.

A student is eligible to participate if s/he meets **all** of the following requirements:

(1) I am a U.S. Citizen or a Permanent Resident;

Yes No *(If yes, please initial the following statement)*

_____ I certify that I am a citizen of the United States; a permanent resident of the United States; in the United States for other than a temporary purpose and able to provide evidence from the Immigration and Naturalization Service of my intent to become a permanent resident; or a permanent resident of the Trust Territory of the Pacific Islands, Guam, or the Northern Mariana Island.

(2) I am currently enrolled at Suffolk University, full-time, in a degree program;

Yes No

(3) I am a second or third year student with a 3.0 GPA;

Yes No

(4) I have a strong desire to attain a PhD or other academic (non-professional) doctorate;

Yes No

(5) I am **both 5A & 5B, all three (5A, 5B, and 5C), or only 5C** of the following:

(5A) I am a ***first-generation college student*** (neither of your parents have a college degree from a four-year institution, i.e., bachelor's degree);

Yes No *(If yes, please initial the following statement)*

_____ I certify that none of my parents or guardians have earned a 4-year college degree.

(5A) I am an ***income-eligible individual*** (see the following income and family size guidelines; the student/students' family must earn at or below the taxable income guidelines for their reported family size)

Current Immediate Household Size & Low-Income Levels (as of January 2017)

<u>Family Size</u>	<u>Family Taxable Income</u>	<u>Alaska Only</u>	<u>Hawaii Only</u>
1	\$ 18,090	\$ 22,590	\$ 20,790
2	\$ 24,360	\$ 30,435	\$ 28,005
3	\$ 30,630	\$ 38,280	\$ 35,220
4	\$ 36,900	\$ 46,125	\$ 42,435
5	\$ 43,170	\$ 53,970	\$ 49,650
6	\$ 49,440	\$ 61,815	\$ 56,865
7	\$ 55,170	\$ 69,660	\$ 64,080
8	\$ 61,980	\$ 77,505	\$ 71,295

For family units with more than eight members, add the following amount for each additional family member: \$6,270 for the 48 contiguous states, the District of Columbia and outlying jurisdictions; \$7,845 for Alaska; and \$7,215 for Hawaii.
For more information, see: <http://www2.ed.gov/about/offices/list/ope/trio/incomelevels.html>

Yes No Unsure (*If yes or unsure, please initial the following statement*)

_____ I grant permission to obtain verification from the Office of Financial Aid.

AND/OR

(5B) I am a member of a group that is ***underrepresented*** in graduate education (Black/African American; Hispanic/Latina/o; American Indian/Alaskan Native; or Native Hawaiian/ Pacific Islander).

Yes No (*If yes, please initial the following statement*)

_____ I certify that I am a member of a group underrepresented in graduate education
Please check all that apply:

- Black/ African American
- Hispanic/Latina/o
- American Indian/Alaskan Native
- Native Hawaiian/Pacific Islander

CERTIFICATION OF ELIGIBILITY

By my signature below, I certify that the information I provided on and in connection with this eligibility form is true, accurate and complete.

Applicant's Signature

Date

RELEASE OF INFORMATION

I authorize the McNair Scholars Program at Suffolk to release and request personal and/or academic information as it relates to my progress and status in the McNair Program and professional activities post-graduation (if accepted into the program), including but not limited to: financial aid information, records maintained by the university registrar (i.e., class schedules, transcripts), standardized examination scores, and/or notes and information from other university administrators that are responsible for ensuring my academic and professional success.

Applicant's Signature

Date

Applicant's Printed Name



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PROGRAM APPLICATION

The Suffolk McNair Scholars Program is a federally funded TRiO program sponsored by the U.S. Department of Education. Acceptance into the program is highly competitive and is contingent upon meeting eligibility criteria and space availability. Please answer all relevant questions below. All information will be kept confidential.

PERSONAL INFORMATION

Suffolk ID #: _____ T-Shirt Size: XS S M L XL 2XL 3XL

Full Legal Name: _____ Preferred Name: _____

Date of Birth: _____ Social Security #: _____ Gender: Male Female

Current Address: _____
City State Zip

Home Phone: _____ Cell Phone: _____

Suffolk Email: _____

Other Email: _____ Preferred Email: Suffolk Other

Citizenship Status (**Check only one**): U.S. Citizen Permanent Resident (*attach copy of alien registration card*)
 Other: _____

Racial/Ethnic Heritage (**Check all that apply**):

- | | |
|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> African American or Black | <input type="checkbox"/> Hispanic or Latina/o |
| <input type="checkbox"/> American Indian or Alaskan Native | <input type="checkbox"/> White – Caucasian/European American |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Asian or Asian American | <input type="checkbox"/> White – Middle Eastern/North African |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander | <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

Are you a commuter student? Yes, I commute No, I live on campus

EMPLOYMENT INFORMATION

Do you currently have a job? Yes, Part-Time Yes, Full-Time No

Where do you work? _____

What is your current position? _____

How many hours per week do you work/will you be working during the academic year? _____

What days/times do you/will you normally work? _____

FAMILY INFORMATION

Do you currently live with your parent(s)/guardian(s)? Yes No (If No, please fill out address below)

Parent/Guardian Address: _____
City State Zip

PARENT/GUARDIAN 1:

Full Name: _____ Phone: _____

Relationship: Father Mother Guardian Other: _____

Education Level: Less than High School HS Diploma Some College Bachelor's Master's Doctorate

PARENT/GUARDIAN 2:

Full Name: _____ Phone: _____

Relationship: Father Mother Guardian Other: _____

Education Level: Less than High School HS Diploma Some College Bachelor's Master's Doctorate

EDUCATION INFORMATION

Will you have earned a bachelor's degree by May of the current academic year? Yes No

Current Academic Classification: Sophomore Junior Senior Other: _____

Major: _____ Minor: _____

How many credit hours are you currently registered for? _____

How many total credit hours have you earned at Suffolk? _____ Overall GPA: _____

Expected Graduation (Month/Year): _____

What is the highest degree you intend to complete?

Uncertain Terminal Master's (e.g. MFA, MBA, MSW) Professional Doctorate (e.g., JD, MD)
 Master's Academic Doctorate (e.g., PhD, EdD) Other: _____

What is your proposed field of graduate study? _____

List any other higher education institutions you have previously attended:

Previous Institution 1: _____

Location: _____ Attendance Dates (mm/yy): ____/____ to ____/____

Previous Institution 2: _____

Location: _____ Attendance Dates (mm/yy): ____/____ to ____/____

ESSAY: PERSONAL AND RESEARCH STATEMENT

In a separate sheet of paper, briefly describe each of the following:

- Your academic and research interests;
- Your educational and career goals;

- How participation in the McNair program will impact your educational and career goals;
- Your motivation for pursuing a doctoral degree (including contributions to your field/community); and
- Any additional information relevant to the program
- If applicable, describe any research experience you have gained in a university setting

Your Personal and Research Statement should be **typed** and **must not exceed four (4) double-spaced pages**. Make sure to attach this document to the application packet.

ACADEMIC AND PROFESSIONAL RESUME

An academic and professional resume should accompany your application. This document should include, but not be limited to, a list of academic honors, distinctions, scholarships, memberships in academic and extracurricular organizations, and participation in academic activities.

Be sure to include any research experience on the resume, as well. If you do, make sure to include the name of the faculty member or research supervisor under whom you conducted this work, and your primary responsibilities.

WRITING SAMPLE

You will be required to submit a writing sample with your application materials. The topic of the paper can be of your choosing, but it should be **academic in nature and include external references cited in the paper**. **There is no length requirement for your writing sample**. You do not have to write a paper specifically for the application. You are welcome to use a paper that you may have already written for a course at Suffolk University (final papers in research methods courses or in major-specific courses work well).

LETTERS OF RECOMMENDATION

Two letters of recommendation are required for the application. Please use the forms provided with the application packet. One recommendation letters **MUST** be from a professor/faculty member at Suffolk University.

PREVIOUS TRIO PARTICIPATION

Please indicate if you have ever participated in any of the following TRiO programs:

- | | |
|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Talent Search | <input type="checkbox"/> Veterans Upward Bound |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Upward Bound | <input type="checkbox"/> Student Support Services |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Upward Bound Math-Science | <input type="checkbox"/> Educational Opportunity Centers (EOC) |

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT AND CERTIFICATION

Please read and sign the following statement:

The McNair Scholars Program at Suffolk University is a federally funded project designed to increase the number of underrepresented individuals pursuing doctoral study. The information on this form is required and is strictly confidential. It will only be used to determine eligibility.

The McNair Scholars Program at Suffolk University is required to submit an Annual Performance Report to the U.S. Department of Education; information from this application will be used. This report will also include participants' social security numbers (SSNs). Although SSNs are not required to receive services, the U.S. Department of Education DOES require us to provide that information. We have thus requested you provide it on this application. If you do not want the McNair Scholars Annual Performance Report to use your SSN, a written request must be submitted directly to the program.

I hereby certify that the information in this program application is true and correct to the best of my knowledge. I further authorize the McNair Scholars Program at Suffolk University to receive and review copies of my academic transcripts, obtain verification of my household income from the Office of Student Financial Services at Suffolk or any previous university I have attended, or gain access to any other information from my academic records pertaining to my enrollment and participation in the McNair Scholars Program.

Applicant's Signature

Date

Applicant's Printed Name

Please return completed application to:

McNair Scholars Program
Center for Academic Access and Opportunity
Suffolk University
73 Tremont Street, 7th Floor, Suite 7025
Boston, MA 02108

For office use only:

____ Eligibility & Info Release ____ Recommendation (Faculty) Application Year: _____

____ Essay ____ Recommendation Eligibility (check one)
LIFG: _____ UR: _____

____ Resume ____ GPA at time of Application

____ Writing Sample ____ Income Verification Form

Income: _____ Family Size: ____ Year of Income Guidelines: _____

Status:

____ Accepted ____ Denied (Reason): _____

Approval: Program Director _____ Date: _____