Application deadline: **February 5, 2018**

Submit all materials to: NCCU McNair Scholars Program

For more information contact:

Dr. Ceilessia Williams, Ph.D, McNair Scholars Program Director, clemens3@nccu.edu
Mrs. Rhonda Jones, Ed.S, McNair Scholars Program Coordinator, rjone168@nccu.edu

**Informational Sessions**

- SESSION 1 – Thursday, January 18, 2018 at 10:40 am
- SESSION 2 – Tuesday, January 23, 2018 at 10:40 am
- SESSION 3 – Thursday, January 25, 2018 at 6:00 pm

*Statement of Confidentiality:* The information requested in this application is for the purpose of determining the applicant’s eligibility for the McNair Scholars Program. Information received is treated as confidential.
***BEFORE YOUBEGIN YOUR APPLICATION***

Consider the following carefully to determine your eligibility for the McNair Scholars Program.

**McNair Scholars Eligibility Checklist**—Please check the boxes that apply to you:

- Must be interested in obtaining a Ph.D. or Ed.D degree
- Must have completed more than 60 units by May 2018
- Must have a GPA of at least 3.0 by the end of fall 2017 and throughout program
- Must be either: 1) a low-income and first-generation college student or 2) underrepresented in higher education
- Must be a United States Citizen
- Must be enrolled at North Carolina Central University
- Must be available to do full-time research in the summer 2018
- Must be a current sophomore or junior to participate in the program

If you have checked all the boxes above, then you are eligible to apply to become a McNair Scholar. Please return these checklists with your application.

**Application Materials Checklist**—Please use this list to complete your application.

- Complete and Signed Application
- Tax Return (Summary only. This is usually 1-2 pages long)
- Unofficial Transcripts
- Personal Statement
- Additional Information (optional)
- Letters of Recommendation (2) along with assigned Recommendation Cover
- Letter for each letter
- Short Video

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1 The McNair Scholars Program is strictly for students who are committed to pursuing a Ph.D. degree. Students interested in medical, legal, or other professional degrees should not apply. Students who go on to pursue an M.D., a J.D., D.D.S., and other Master’s or professional degrees may be required to repay the McNair award.


3 The US Department of Education defines first-generation college student as a student who has not resided with, or received primary support from, a parent who has received a B.A. degree or its equivalent.

4 African American, Chicano/Latino, and Native American students are considered underrepresented in higher education.
Applicant: ____________________________
Last Name  First Name  Middle Initial

2017-2018 McNair Eligibility Check

Please certify that, to the best of your knowledge, you meet the minimum eligibility requirements to apply to the Ronald E. McNair Scholars Program.

I. First generation—I, (Print Name) _______________________, certify that I am a first-generation college student (neither of my parents or guardians with whom I resided earned a bachelor’s degree).

II. Low Income Status (check one):

- Independent Student
- Dependent Student

Family size:
(line 6d or add a thru c in form 1040 and 1040A; in 1040EZ, if line 5 reads $8,950, then family size is 1, otherwise, family size is 2)

Taxable Income:
(line 43 in form 1040; line 27 in form 1040A; line 6 in 1040EZ)

Allowable Income:
(See the U.S. Dept. of Education website http://www.ed.gov/about/offices/list/ope/trio/incomelevels.html for low-income level determinations.)
(Effective January 31, 2017 until further notice)

Size of Family Unit  48 Contiguous States, D.C., & Outlying Juris district  Alaska  Hawaii

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  $55,710  $69,660  $64,080
8  $61,980  $77,505  $71,295

Based on the U.S. Dept. of Education limits, family size, and taxable income above, I certify that I am considered “low-income.”

U.S. Citizen—I certify that I am a U.S. Citizen.

If not a citizen, I certify that I am a U.S. permanent resident or otherwise eligible for Federal Financial Aid?
III. Underrepresented in Higher Ed.—I certify that I am a member of an underrepresented group in Higher Education as defined by the U.S. Department of Education.

- YES  - NO

Initial here

(African American, Chicano/Latino, Native American, and some Pacific Islander students are considered underrepresented in higher education.)

THE FOLLOWING SECTION IS TO BE FILLED OUT BY A STAFF MEMBER

This student is eligible for McNair? (Please check one)

- YES  - NO

Documentation:

- Signed Application
- Tax Return
- Verification from other government agency
- SAR or other documentation
- Signed FA Application
- Other documentation (please specify): ____________________________

________________________________  ________________________
Staff Signature  Date

________________________________  ________________________
Director Signature Date  Date
Applicant Contact Information

Name: ___________________  _______________  ____________
Last Name                 First Name                 Middle Initial

Local Mailing Address: ____________________________________________ Apt. Suite#

City: _______________     State: _____     Zip Code: ______

Telephone Home: (___)_______________  Cellular Number: (___)___________

NCCU Email: _______________  Non-NCCU Email: _______________

Permanent Mailing Address: ____________________________________________ Apt. Suite#

City: _______________     State: _____     Zip Code: ______

City and State of Birth: _______________     Date of Birth: _______________

Sex: (Male, Female, or Other): __________

Please provide the names and permanent addresses of three people who will know how to reach you in the future (i.e. parents or other relatives).

1. Name of Relative/Permanent Contact: ________________________________________________
   Relationship to the Applicant: _______________________________________________________
   Address: ______________________________________ City________________
   State: _______________    Zip Code____________________
   Telephone Home (___)____________________
   Cellular Phone (___) ___________Stable Email: _______________________________________

2. Name of Relative/Permanent Contact: ________________________________________________
   Relationship to the Applicant: _______________________________________________________
   Address: ______________________________________ City________________
   State: _______________    Zip Code____________________
   Telephone Home (___)_________  Cellular Number
   Stable Email: ___________________________________________
3. Name of Relative/Permanent Contact: ________________________________

Relationship to the Applicant: __________________________________________

Address: _____________________________________________________________
City __________________
State_________ Zip Code______________

(____)__________ (____)__________ Stable Email: ________________________
Telephone Home           Cellular Number
Applicant: ___________________  Last Name  ___________________  First Name  ___________  Middle Initial

**Ethnic Demographics**

**Required:** Are you of Latino or Hispanic Ethnicity?  • YES • NO

(According to Federal McNair Guidelines, Hispanic/Latino refers to a person of Cuban, Mexican, Puerto Rican, South or Central American, or other Spanish culture or origin, regardless of race. As such, every Hispanic/Latino person has an associated race(s) as noted below).

**Required:** Race Reporting - Check all that apply (at least one)

- American Indian/Alaskan Native
- Asian
- Black or African American
- White or Caucasian
- Native Hawaiian or Pacific Islander

**Definitions:**

1. (American Indian/Alaskan Native refers to a person having origins in any of the original peoples of North and South America, including Central America, and who maintains tribal affiliation or community attachment)

2. (Asian refers to a person having origins in any of the original peoples of the Far East, Southeast Asia, or the Indian subcontinent, including, for example, Cambodia, China, India, Japan, Korea, Malaysia, Pakistan, the Philippine Islands, Thailand, and Vietnam)

3. (Black or African American refers to a person having origins in any of the black racial groups of Africa)

4. (White or Caucasian refers to a person having origins in any of the peoples of Europe, the Middle East, or North Africa)

5. (Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander refers to a person having origins in Hawaii, or the Federal States of Micronesia or Palau also known as the “freely Associated States.”)
Applicant: __________________
Last Name __________________
First Name _____________
Middle Initial _____________

For financial aid purposes, are you considered dependent or independent?
If you are a dependent student, please complete Section A.
If you are an independent student, please complete Section B.

## Family Demographics

### Section A: Dependent Students
What is the size of your parents’ household, including yourself? ______________
Did your parent(s) file a federal tax return for 2017?
* YES
* NO
If yes, what was their 2016 taxable income? $_________________
(line 43 on IRS form 1040; line 27 on form 1040A; line 6 on form 1040EZ) $_____________
If no, place a “0” on the line for taxable income.

Please attach: 1) A copy of your parents’ 2017 federal income tax forms, or
2) A copy of your most recent SAR or FAFSA.

### Section B: Independent Students
What is the size of your household, including yourself, your spouse, and/or other dependents? ________
Did you file a federal tax return for 2017?
* YES
* NO
If yes, what was your 2016 taxable income? $_________________
(line 43 on IRS form 1040; line 27 on form 1040A, line 6 on form 1040EZ) $_________________
If no, place a “0” on the line for taxable income.

Please attach: Educational Attainment of Parent(s) or Legal Guardian(s) SAR or FAFSA.

### Education attainment of Mother:

Highest Grade Completed: 0 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16
College degree earned, if any:  • Bachelor  • Masters  • Doctorate

### Education attainment of Father:

Highest Grade Completed: 0 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16
College degree earned, if any:  • Bachelor  • Masters  • Doctorate

With whom did you regularly reside and receive support from before the age of 18?
* Mother only  • Father only  • Both  • Other: ______________

Your signature here certifies that these facts are true:

Signature ________________________ Date _____________
Educational Information

Completed number of UNITS completed AFTER Spring semester 2018: ______

Projected graduation date (Semester & Year):________________________

Have you taken a Research Methods course in your major?  
• YES  • NO

Current Major(s): ____________________________________________________

Minor(s) and or Concentration(s): _______________________________________

Major Advisor: _______________________________________________________

Cumulative NCCU GPA: ______

If you are a Transfer Student: Please Enter Your Transfer GPA: ______

Transfer School Name: _________________________

What is your projected date of entrance into graduate school? ______________

In what field do you wish to pursue a Ph.D. degree? _______________________

Note: A copy of your most recent unofficial transcripts including fall 2017, must be submitted 
By **March 2018** to verify NCCU GPA.
Applicant: __________________________  First Name: _________  Middle Initial: _________

Last Name: _____________________

**Personal Statement**

Your statement are vital parts of the application and are closely reviewed. Please answer the following prompts each on separate sheets of paper. The documents should be typed, double-spaced and in 12pt font. **Essays over the word limit may be penalized.**

1. In **400** words or less, tell us about your academic and career goals, paying special attention to how a Ph.D. is essential to those pursuits.

2. Optional: In **200** words or less, provide any additional information you would like us to consider.

**Faculty Mentor Information**

Provide the names and departments of two North Carolina Central University Faculty Members in your major who you believe would be ideal mentors for your research project.

Mentor 1: _____________________________________________________________________

Mentor 2: _____________________________________________________________________

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Applicant: __________________________  Last Name ____________________________
                                                  First Name __________________________  Middle Initial

Letters of Recommendation

We require **TWO** letters of recommendation from faculty; please use the attached forms. Letters should address how your academic interest and preparation make you well suited to the program. Letters should also comment on your academic performance and research potential. Please keep in mind that the letters of recommendation are significant elements of your application.

1. Recommender Name: ______________________________________________________
   
   Campus Address: ______________________________________________________
   
   Phone Number: (__)_______________  Email: ____________________________

2. Recommender Name: ______________________________________________________
   
   Campus Address: ______________________________________________________
   
   Phone Number: (__)_______________  Email: ____________________________

My signature below indicates that, to the best of my knowledge, the information given in this application is true, complete, and accurate.

Signature: __________________________  Date: _____________

The deadline for submitting all application materials including transcripts, letters of recommendation, video, and financial aid forms is Monday, **February 5, 2018 before 4:00 p.m.**
Applicant:

Last Name __________________________ First Name _______________ Middle Initial __________

Ronald E. McNair Scholars Program Faculty Recommendation Form #1

Applicant’s Name (please print): _____________________________________________

TO THE APPLICANT:

In accordance with the Family Education Rights and Privacy Act of 1974, you may waive your right to inspect this recommendation by signing the statement below. This waiver is not required as a condition for admission to the McNair Scholars Program.

I hereby waive my right to access this letter of recommendation.

____________________________________
Signature Date

TO THE RECOMMENDER:

The McNair Scholars Program is designed to prepare selected NCCU undergraduates to pursue graduate study toward a Ph.D. or Ed.D program. Students will spend the academic year developing writing and research skills while planning the research project that they will conduct during the summer under the direction of their faculty mentor.

Please attach a statement about this applicant that includes the following:

• How long have you known the applicant and in what capacity?
• What is your appraisal of the applicant’s potential as a graduate student and as a future scholar?
• Evaluate the applicant’s academic aptitude and preparation for graduate work, motivation for a Ph.D. or EdD, and current academic performance in his/her area of concentration.

Signature: ___________________________ Date: _______________

Name (please print): ____________________________

Campus Address: _________________________________

Please return this form via email by February 5, 2018 to the Ronald E. McNair Scholars Program
Eagle Landing Residence Hall, 1801 Fayetteville Street, Durham, NC 27707

If you have any questions, please contact: Mrs. Rhonda Jones, M.A., Ed.S
McNair Scholars Program Coordinator
Email: rjone168@nccu.edu
Office: 919-530-6690
Ronald E. McNair Scholars Program Faculty Recommendation Form #2

Applicant’s Name (please print): _____________________________________________

TO THE APPLICANT:

In accordance with the Family Education Rights and Privacy Act of 1974, you may waive your right to inspect this recommendation by signing the statement below. This waiver is not required as a condition for admission to the McNair Scholars Program.

I hereby waive my right to access this letter of recommendation.

____________________________________  
Signature    Date

TO THE RECOMMENDER:

The McNair Scholars Program is designed to prepare selected NCCU undergraduates to pursue graduate study toward a Ph.D. or Ed.D program. Students will spend the academic year developing writing and research skills while planning the research project that they will conduct during the summer under the direction of their faculty mentor.

Please attach a statement about this applicant that includes the following:

• How long have you known the applicant and in what capacity?
• What is your appraisal of the applicant’s potential as a graduate student and as a future scholar?
• Evaluate the applicant's academic aptitude and preparation for graduate work, motivation for a Ph.D., and current academic performance in his/her area of concentration.

Signature: ___________________________  Date: ____________________

Name (please print): ____________________________

Campus Address: ________________________________

Please return this form via email by **February 5, 2018**: Ronald E. McNair Scholars Program Eagle Landing Residence Hall, 1801 Fayetteville Street, Durham, NC 27707

If you have any questions, please contact: Mrs. Rhonda Jones, MA, Ed.S McNair Scholars Program Coordinator Email: rjone168@nccu.edu Office: 919-530-6690
I (Applicant Name) _______________________________ grant the North Carolina Central University Ronald E. McNair Scholars Program the right to use my name and picture, without compensation to me, in electronic media (i.e. websites and emails) and written materials (i.e. advertising material and brochures) for promotional fund raising and educational purposes.

I also grant the North Carolina Central University Ronald E. McNair Scholars Program permission to release contact information to the Department of Education, graduate school programs, and other educational institutions. I understand that the North Carolina Central University Ronald E. McNair Scholars Program will use my information for promotional and educational purposes. I hereby agree to hold the North Carolina Central University Ronald E. McNair Scholars Program, its staff, and its affiliates harmless from any liability resulting from the use of the information, text, and pictures herein submitted.

__________________________________  __________________________________
Signature  Date

__________________________________
Name (Print)
Ronald E. McNair Scholar Program Application Video Submission Instructions

Please submit a Five (5) minute video that addresses the following questions:

- Introduce Yourself (Name, Year [i.e. 1st, 2nd, 3rd, 4th or 5th], (Major)
- Why do you wish to become a McNair Scholar?
- Why do you want to earn a Ph.D. or Ed. D?
- What drew you to your research interest(s)?
- What skill(s) do you bring as a researcher to your scholarship?
- How do you anticipate the McNair Scholars Program being of assistance to you as an academic?

UPLOAD VIDEO to YOUTUBE and EMAIL to PROGRAM ASSISTANT

After you record your 5 minute video, upload it to YouTube with the title “(First name, Last name); NCCU Ronald E McNair Scholars Program Interest”

After uploading your video to YouTube, copy the url and paste it in an email with a brief message describing yourself; including your name, classification, field of study, and student identification number.

This email should be sent to Ms. Yehide Hicks, McNair Scholars Program Assistant at yhicks2@nccu.edu.

All videos must be uploaded by February 5, 2018 at 4:00 p.m. using the link above.
**McNair Application FAQ’s**

**Q: Do letters of recommendation need to be from North Carolina Central University professors?**
A: Yes, all applicants must submit two (2) letters of recommendation. Your application will be read and scored by NCCU professors, who often value the recommendation of their peers the most.

**Q: If I am an incoming transfer student, can I get letters from my Community College Instructors?**
A: Yes, this is acceptable if you cannot secure strong letters from North Carolina Central University faculty.

**Q: Can I get a letter of recommendation from an employer or an organization I volunteered for?**
A: Faculty (academic) letters are best. The recommender should speak to your ability to do research.

**Q: What happens if my letter of recommendation arrives past the deadline?**
A: No application material will be considered past the application deadline.

**Q: I am graduating soon. Am I still eligible to apply?**
A: In order to participate as a McNair Scholar, you must be enrolled in the Spring semester and available to do full-time research during the Summer. For example, to be a part of our 2017-18 Cohort, you must be enrolled at NCCU in the Spring 2018 semester and available to conduct research during Summer 2018.

**Q: I am considering a joint Ph.D.-M.D. degree, or Joint Ph.D. + J.D. degree. Can I apply?**
A: Yes, however you must be very clear that a Ph.D. is necessary for your academic pursuits.

**Q: Do I need to have a Faculty mentor when I apply?**
A: No, we can work with you to find a faculty mentor if you are accepted into the program and do not already have a mentor. If you have already secured a mentor, please mention it in your application.

**Q: Am I still eligible if my GPA is below a 3.0?**
A: We are unfortunately unable to admit students with a GPA that is under a 3.0. We encourage you to work on raising your GPA and reapply during your senior year.

**Q: Can I study abroad in the summer and still participate in the McNair Scholars Program?**
A: No, you must be available to do research from June through early August. If your research requires you to travel, then you must be granted permission and return to NCCU by early July.

**Will I be allowed to work and/or take classes if necessary during the summer?**
A: It is recommended that you focus solely on your research during the summer. However, you may petition to work or take a class during the summer if necessary.

**Am I able to receive financial aid for courses during the summer in addition to my McNair stipend?**
A: Yes, if there are any issues with receiving your stipend, please contact us immediately to resolve the issue.

**What does the timeline for participation in the McNair Program look like?**
A: During the summer, you will implement your research project and present your work at our annual Ronald E. McNair Symposium, held on the NCCU campus. In the fall semester, you will publish your work in the McNair Research Journal and apply to graduate school.