Ronald E. McNair Scholars Program

APPLICATION
2014-2015

Return completed application to:

Portland State University
McNair Scholars Program
Post Office Box 751-OAI
Portland, OR  97207-0751

Phone (503) 725-9740

Office Location: Smith, M302

The Ronald E. McNair Post-Baccalaureate Achievement Program is funded by a five-year $1,155,000 grant from the US Department of Education. Portland State University provides cost-share funds over the same period.
Ronald E. McNair Scholars Program
APPLICATION

Applicant Information

Name: ____________________________________________________________
                   Last                      First                      Middle

Local Address: ____________________________________________________
                   Street                      City                      State                      Zip Code

Permanent Address: _______________________________________________
                   Street                      City                      State                      Zip Code

Phone: (____) _______________       Cell Phone: (____) _______________

E-mail Address: ____________________________________________       Gender: □Male       □Female

Date of Birth: ____/____/____       PSU ID Number: _____/____/____
               Month                      Day                      Year

Citizenship
U.S. Citizen: □Yes       □No       Permanent Resident: □Yes       □No       □Other___________
If you are a permanent resident or citizen born outside the United States, please provide copy of
U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS) documentation.

Ethnic Heritage (Please check all that apply)
□Latino or Hispanic       □Native Hawaiian or Pacific Islander
□African-American       □Caucasian
□Native American/Alaskan Native       □Other (specify)____________________

How did you learn about the PSU McNair Scholars Program? ______________

Academic Information

High School: ___________________________________________       Dates: ___/___ to ___/___ GPA: ___

College/University: ___________________________       Dates: ___/___/___ to ___/___/___ GPA: ___
   Please list the month, day and year you first enrolled in a college or a university

College/University: ___________________________       Dates: ___/___/___ to ___/___/___ GPA: ___

College/University: ___________________________       Dates: ___/___/___ to ___/___/___ GPA: ___

College/University: ___________________________       Dates: ___/___/___ to ___/___/___ GPA: ___

College/University: ___________________________       Dates: ___/___/___ to ___/___/___ GPA: ___
Are you currently pursuing a Bachelor of Arts, Science, or Music?  
☐ Yes  ☐ No

Academic Major: _____________________  Current GPA: _____
Additional Major: _____________________  Current GPA: _____
Minor: ________________________________  Current GPA: _____

Current student status:  ☐ Junior  ☐ Senior

Number of credits earned to date: _____

Number of credits enrolled in currently: _____

What is your projected graduation date?  _____/_____  
Month  Year

Check all that apply or have applied:
☐ SSS Participant  ☐ Veteran  ☐ GED graduate

List any extracurricular activities and awards
Extracurricular activities are important components of your education. A summary, including dates, names of the activities, brief descriptions of each activity (e.g., summer school program in science, competitive soccer city league, local soup program), responsibilities, and any accomplishments, will be helpful. We suggest that you group your activities into categories (e.g., school organizations, educational enrichment, and community service). Please indicate the approximate time commitment for each activity.

________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________

Eligibility Requirements

The following information is required for eligibility verification by the US Department of Education. This information will be kept confidential and used solely for supporting program eligibility.

For the purpose of eligibility, “parents” refers to either biological, adoptive, or legal guardian most recently assuming financial responsibility for you.

With whom do you maintain permanent residence (check all that apply)?
☐ Mother  ☐ Father  ☐ Guardian
☐ Self-supporting (must be 24 years of age or have a dependent child)
Mother's Name: __________________________ Last Name               First Name               MI
Did your mother graduate from a four-year college or university?  ☐Yes  ☐No
Level of education: _____       Degree earned: _______________________________________

Father's Name: __________________________ Last Name               First Name               MI
Did your father graduate from a four-year college or university?  ☐Yes  ☐No
Level of education: _____       Degree earned: _______________________________________

Guardian's Name: __________________________ Last Name               First Name               MI

Eligibility as a First-Generation Student
If applicable, sign the following statement:
The definition of a “first-generation college student” reflects my background accurately: the natural or adoptive parents with whom I resided before my 18th birthday did not receive a Bachelor's degree from college. If I regularly resided with and received support from only one parent, that parent did not complete a baccalaureate. By Trio and McNair definitions, I am a first-generation college student.

Student Signature __________________________ Date __________

Dependent students only
Did your parent(s) file a 2013 federal income tax form?  ☐Yes  ☐No
Were you claimed on your parent(s)’ tax return as a dependent?  ☐Yes  ☐No
If yes, what was their taxable income for 2013? $__________
(IRS Form 1040, IRS Form 1040A, or IRS Form 1040EZ)
Number of members in your immediate household (circle one) 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9+
Number of members claimed on your parent(s)’ tax form? _____

Self-supporting students only
Did you file a 2013 federal income tax form?  ☐Yes  ☐No
What was your taxable income for 2013? $__________
(IRS Form 1040, IRS Form 1040A, or IRS Form 1040EZ)
Number of members in your immediate household (circle one) 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9+
Number of members claimed on your tax form? _____

Are you receiving need-based financial aid (Pell, SEOG, Perkins, Stafford, or Federal Work Study)?  ☐Yes  ☐No

Please list: ____________________________________________________________
You must submit all of the following as proof of income and dependent status:

1. one copy of your most recent tax forms
2. one copy of your parent(s)’ most recent tax forms (if dependent)
3. one copy of your Student Aid Report (SAR)

I certify that the information I have supplied is accurate to the best of my knowledge. If I am selected for the program, I agree to participate in follow-up activities, testing, evaluation, and to release my transcripts to the McNair Scholars Program each quarter.

Signature: ____________________________ Date: _____ / ____ / _____
EDUCATIONAL AND CAREER ESSAY

Please answer the following questions. Respond to each question in a separate paragraph numbered to correspond with the question number. Limit your essay to a maximum of two typed, double-spaced pages.

1. Why do you want to be a McNair Scholar?
2. Why do you want to complete a PhD?
3. How does a PhD help you with your career goals?
4. Describe a potential topic or question you would like to explore for your McNair research project?
5. What do you consider as your strengths and weaknesses?
Ronald E. McNair Scholars Program
LETTER OF RECOMMENDATION

Applicant Section (to be completed by applicant)

Name __________________________________________________________

Last First Middle

PSU ID Number _______/ _______/________

In accordance with the Family Education Rights and Privacy Act of 1974, I [ ] waive, [ ] I do not waive my right to review this letter of recommendation.

Applicant's Signature ___________________________ Date ___________

Recommender's Section (to be completed by the person recommending the applicant)

The above named student is applying for admission to the Portland State University Ronald E. McNair Scholars Program (Ronald E. McNair Post-baccalaureate Achievement Program). Your candid assessment of the candidate will assist the Ronald E. McNair Scholars Selection Committee. Thank you.

1. How long have you known the applicant? _____ Years _____ Months
2. In what capacity have you known the applicant? ______________________
3. Which best represents your realm of knowledge of the applicant’s abilities?
   [ ] Academic  [ ] Extracurricular Activities
4. Please rate the applicant relative to other students whom you have known in recent years.

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Ronald E. McNair Scholars Program
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Recommender’s Name (please print clearly) ________________________________
Position ___________________________ Employer ___________________________
Work Address _________________________ E-mail Address _______________________
Phone (____) ______-________ E-mail Address _______________________

Signature of Recommender ___________________________ Date _______________

Please seal this form in an envelope and sign your name across the seal. Return the sealed and signed envelope to the student, or mail to Portland State University, Ronald E. McNair Scholars Program, Post Office Box 751-OAI, Portland, OR, 97207-0751. The student is responsible for returning all materials by the required date.
Ronald E. McNair Scholars Program
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Last                      First                      Middle

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Signature of Recommender ____________________________________________ Date __________

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Ronald E. McNair Scholars Program

VERIFICATION OF FAMILY INCOME

I authorize the Office of Financial Aid at Portland State University to release my tax information, needs analysis, and other financial aid information to the PSU Ronald E. McNair Scholars Program in order to determine my eligibility for the said program.

________________________________________
Student’s Name (Print)

________________________
Current Academic Year/Term

________________________
Student’s Signature

________________________
Student ID Number

The information below must be provided by the Office of Financial Aid at Portland State University.

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<tr>
<th>Award Program</th>
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<td>OR Opportunity Grant</td>
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<td>SEOG</td>
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<td>OUS Supp’l Tuition Grant</td>
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<td>Total Established Student Need</td>
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<td>Student EFC</td>
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Important: Official Financial Aid Office information shows the following for the above named student for the previous tax year _________.

$______________, $______________, ____________
Taxable Income  Adjusted Gross Income  Family Size

This student is considered independent ☐ or dependent ☐

________________________________________
Name of Financial Aid Official

________________________________________
Signature of Financial Aid Official

________________________________________
Office Phone Number

Return to: PSU Ronald E. McNair Scholars Program, SMU room M302,
Campus mail code: McNair-OAI, Phone: 503-725-9740

SCHAPP
Ronald E. McNair Scholars Program

APPLICANT CHECKLIST

___ Completed the Portland State University Ronald E. McNair Scholars Application Form

___ Educational/Career Essay

___ List of Extracurricular Activities

___ Copy of your 2013 tax forms (if self-supporting) or parent(s)’ 2013 tax forms (if dependent)

___ Copy of current Student Aid Report (SAR)

___ Verification of Family Income Form (to be completed by the PSU Financial Aid Office)

___ Current Official PSU Transcript

___ Three letters of reference pertaining to your academic and extracurricular activities

  Two must be from professors. A letter from a professor in your major is ideal. One from someone familiar with your extracurricular activities as they relate to your participation in the program is helpful. Letters from immediate family members are not acceptable.

QUALIFICATIONS

___ Full-time undergraduate student status at Portland State University

___ First-generation college student (see Eligibility Requirement Section of Application) AND

  Low-income (family income does not exceed 150% of poverty level established by U.S. Census Bureau)--see U.S. Department of Education chart.

  OR, if you are not a first-generation and low-income college student,

  Member of group traditionally underrepresented in Higher Education (African American, Hispanic/Latino, Native American, Native Alaskan, Native Hawaiian, or Pacific Islander)

___ Cumulative GPA of 3.0 or better

___ Junior or Senior undergraduate status, based on the total credit hours at the start of the program

___ U.S. citizen or permanent U.S. resident

___ Intention to graduate from Portland State University and immediately enter an academic graduate program with the goal of attaining a PhD