Ronald McNair Scholars Program
University of Wisconsin Oshkosh
800 Algoma Blvd.
Oshkosh, WI 54901
(920) 424-3171

Dear McNair Scholars Program Applicant:

The McNair Scholars Program may be an once-in-a-lifetime valuable opportunity to advance your academic career. This prestigious and competitive program prepares selected University of Wisconsin Oshkosh undergraduates for graduate study at the doctoral level with the aim to increase numbers of student groups underrepresented in doctoral programs. The program consists of focused and challenging seminars, as well as intensive research completed by undergraduate students who are eligible, motivated and able to complete doctoral study.

To be eligible to apply you must be low-income and first-generation (neither natural/adoptive parent has a Bachelor's degree), OR be a member of a group underrepresented in graduate education.

You will need to have attained at least junior class standing to be able to complete the intensive research. If you are a senior applying for this program, you must complete the research the summer prior to graduation. Sophomores may apply, but priority is given to juniors and seniors. In addition, your cumulative GPA must be at least 2.75, preferably 3.0. Only those students who are eligible to apply will have their applications reviewed for acceptance.

To apply for this competitive and challenging graduate school preparation program, please do the following:

1. Complete the McNair Scholars Program application and an essay.
2. Attach a copy of your unofficial transcript
3. Attach a copy of the page on your most recent tax return that shows your taxable income. We need to know the **taxable income**, not adjusted gross income.
4. Forward two recommendation forms from faculty who are confident of your ability to succeed in graduate school, and of your ability to do research in your field.

All application materials should be sent to the McNair Scholars Program (Halsey 160 or mail to Dept. of Biology/Microbiology, 800 Algoma Blvd., Oshkosh, WI 54901).

The McNair Review Board will read and rank applications. Selected applicants will be invited for an interview. All selections by the Review Board are final and may not be appealed.

Good luck!

Mary Seaman
Senior Lecturer
UWO Dept. of Biology and Microbiology
McNair Scholars Program Director
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The University of Wisconsin Oshkosh - McNAIR SCHOLARS PROGRAM
Confidential Application Form
www.uwosh.edu/mcnairscholars

Please provide the following information. **All information is confidential.** If you are concerned about any of the questions asked on this form, please discuss your concerns with the McNair Program Director, Halsey 160.

Name: _____ **SS#:** _____-_____-_____ **Student ID#** _____
Last First M.I.

Date you first entered post-secondary college (MMDDYYYY): _____/_____/_____

Date of UW Oshkosh enrollment (MMDDYYYY): ____/____/_____ **Anticipated Graduation Date:** _____/____/_____

How many credits have been earned? At prior universities _____ **At UW Oshkosh** _____

How many credits are currently being taken? _____

Local Address: _____ **Phone:** _____/_____/_____

Permanent Home Address: _____ **Cell:** _____/_____/_____

E-Mail:_____ **Major:** _____ **Minor:** _____

Emergency Contact _____

Gender: F_____ M_____ **Age:** _____ **Birth date:** _____/_____/_____ **GPA:** _____

Are you a U.S. citizen? ____Yes ____ No **If not, are you a permanent resident?** _____Yes Please provide documentation

Ethnicity or Cultural Group: ____Asian American ____ Alaska Native ____Black/African American ____Caucasian

____Native Hawaiian/Pacific Islander ____Hispanic heritage ____Native American/American Indian

Status: ____ Sophomore ____Junior _____Senior (not graduating until after summer research)

Financial Aid Status: ____independent ____dependent **Are you a US military veteran?** ____Yes ____No

Your parent's/guardian's, or your own total taxable income (if you are considered independent):_____
Verification required: attach your parent's or your own tax information for last year (just page showing taxable income ~ line 43 on form 1040; line 27 on 1040A; line 6 on 1040EZ) OR on your most recent FAFSA.

(Note: If you are not 24 years of age, are not married, have dependent child or parent, a veteran of the U.S. Armed Forces you are considered dependent even if you live on your own).

What is the number of people residing in your household as reported on your FAFSA or income tax form? _____

Do you receive a Pell grant? ____Yes ____No

Has either of your parents (natural or adoptive) obtained a four-year Bachelor's degree? ____Yes ____No

(Note: The definition of "first generation college student" is that my parents or guardians with whom I reside prior to my 18th birthday did not receive a baccalaureate degree (i.e. Bachelor of Arts – BA, Bachelor of Science – BS) from a college or university, OR that if my parents attended college outside the U.S. and graduate, the degree would not be considered to the equivalent of a BA or BS).

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Have you ever participated:

. . . in Talent Search? ____Yes ____No

. . . in Student Support Services? ____Yes ____No

. . . in Upward Bound Math/Science? ____Yes ____No

Are you enrolled in the UWO Honors Program?
___ Yes ____ No

Name of 2 mentors you would like to work with:

Name:_____ Department:_____

Name:_____ Department:_____

How did you become aware of the UW Oshkosh McNair Scholars Program? _____

I certify that the above information is true. I hereby authorize the McNair Scholars Program to disclose or obtain educational records, financial information (e.g., FAFSA) or personal information with/from any college faculty or staff member, as deemed appropriate by the McNair Scholars Program Director or Program Coordinator. This waiver is required as a condition for admission to or receipt of any services and benefits from The University of Wisconsin Oshkosh/Ronald E. McNair Postbaccalaureate Achievement Program. All rights of access to case files conferred by the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act of 1974 (P.L. 93-380) as amended, or otherwise, are hereby waived.

_____ _____

Applicant's Signature **Date**

FOR OFFICE USE ONLY

Program Director's Signature _____ Date _____

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APPLICATION ESSAY ~ WRITING SAMPLE

Attach the essay on a separate sheet ~ please be concise.
Please type.

1. Please consider your academic and career goals then answer this question: Why do you want to enter into a doctoral program of study? (250-300 words)

2. How do you think graduate school will be different from undergraduate school? (About 50 words)

3. Discuss what you expect to get out of your participation in the McNair Scholars program. (About 50 words)

4. Please describe any research or academic internships in which you have been involved via coursework, employment or other experiences.

5. List the semester/year and title of the writing intensive course you completed and statistics course you have completed, or the one in which you will enroll to meet the University's writing proficiency and data analysis requirements.

5. What prospective research topic(s) or research area do you wish to explore as a McNair Scholar at UW Oshkosh?

The UW Oshkosh McNair Scholars Program is 100% funded through a TRIO grant from the United States Department of Education PR/Award Number P217A120210. For the year 2012/2013, the UW Oshkosh McNair Scholars Program received $220,000 in federal funds.

The University of Wisconsin Oshkosh will not discriminate against or harass any employee or applicant for employment because of race, color, creed, religion, national/ethnic origin, sex, marital status, disability, status with regard to public assistance, sexual orientation, age, genetic information, membership or activity in a local commission, or disabled veteran status.