The Ronald E. McNair Postbaccalaureate Achievement Program

The Westminster College McNair Scholars Program prepares low-income, first-generation, and underrepresented students for doctoral study. This nationwide program was created in memory of Ronald E. McNair, PhD, an African-American physicist who died in the Challenger space shuttle mission in 1986.

The Ronald E. McNair Postbaccalaureate Achievement Program is a nationwide graduate school preparation program at Westminster College.

Westminster College
1840 South 1300 East
Salt Lake City, Utah 84105
westminstercollege.edu

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Is Graduate School on Your Horizon?

Eligibility

All applicants must:
• Be a rising sophomore, junior, or senior
• Have a minimum 3.0 GPA or significant academic progress in the last 30 credit hours or major
• Be a US citizen or permanent resident
• Have a sincere desire to pursue graduate education

You must also qualify as:
• A low-income, first-generation college student (neither parent has a bachelor’s degree)
• OR a member of a group that is under-represented in graduate education (American Indian/Alaska Native, Hispanic/Latino, African American, or Native Hawaiian/Pacific Islander)

Preference is given to students at Westminster College, Salt Lake Community College, and the University of Utah

Benefits

Scholars receive:
• A $2,800 stipend for summer research
• Faculty mentors for research and ongoing academic advising
• Opportunities to visit graduate programs
• Assistance applying for financial support
• Assistance applying to graduate schools
• Opportunities to attend professional conferences and present research
• Application fee waivers from participating institutions
• GRE test fee half-price vouchers
• Free summer tuition at Westminster College

Activities

Scholars engage in:
• An eight-week, faculty-mentored, summer research experience
• Presentation of research at the McNair Scholars Research Symposium
• GRE test preparation
• Workshops and seminars on topics such as research methods, writing a personal statement, choosing a graduate school program, funding graduate school, graduate student success, library and Internet resources, and presentation skills
• Academic counseling and tutoring as needed
• Peer support and group activities

For more information, contact

McNair Scholars Program
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The Westminster College McNair Scholars Program is funded at approximately $341,000 yearly. Of this amount, $231,000 (68%) is an annual grant from the U. S. Department of Education. Westminster College provides the remaining 32% by contributing more than $110,000 of support each year.