



The California State University, Sacramento McNair Scholars Program is a one-year (Fall, Spring, Summer) program designed to prepare selected CSUS students in junior and senior standing, for admission and study at the doctoral level. The McNair Scholars Program admits undergraduate students who show a strong desire to obtain a Ph.D. degree.

ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA

- Be a first generation undergraduate student and reside in an income-eligible household
- Completion of 60 units or more
- Be an undergraduate student enrolled full-time at CSUS
- Possess a 2.8 minimum GPA
- Be a U.S. citizen or permanent resident
- Be willing to commit to the program requirements. There is a minimum 3-semester commitment while in school that includes summer participation, and 10 years of tracking after completion of the baccalaureate degree.
- Interest in pursuing a Ph.D. degree

To apply for the McNair Scholars Program, please submit the following:

- Completed application
- Personal Statement (See page 5 for details)
- Writing Sample - previously graded essay of a 4 page minimum with a bibliography page
- A copy of **ALL** unofficial college transcripts (including community colleges, other universities and CSUS)
- Three letters of recommendation - two must come from faculty **or** community members referencing your academic capabilities and one personal i.e., employer, counselor, etc.
- A copy of a current tax return and financial aid award summary; or documentation of income

Application Priority Deadline: May 15, 2026

Applications are accepted on a rolling basis after this date.

If you have questions, call (916) 278-5118, email mcnair@csus.edu, or visit the McNair Scholars Office at California State University, Sacramento, Riverfront Center 203, 6000 J Street, Sacramento, CA 95819-6114 or visit us at www.csus.edu/mcnair



A. PERSONAL INFORMATION

1. Name: _____ Student ID: _____
Last First MI

2. Address: _____
Street City State Zip

3. Cell Number: (____) ____-____ Home Number: (____) ____-____

4. E-mail Address: _____

5. Gender: Female Male Non-Binary

6. Date of Birth: _____ (MM/DD/YYYY)

7. Place of Birth: _____
City State/Zip Code

8. Are you a U.S. Citizen? Yes No *If no, please complete the following below:*

Permanent Resident: Yes No Country of Citizenship: _____

9. Please check your race/ethnicity (used only for funding source):

American Indian or Alaskan Native

Pacific Islander

Black, including African-American

Hispanic

Other: _____

10. Permanent address of a relative that you do not reside with:

Name/Address/City/State/Zip/Telephone

11. How did you hear about us?



B. FINANCIAL INFORMATION

The information contained in this application is for the purpose of determining eligibility for the CSUS Ronald E. McNair Scholars Program. Information received is treated confidentially.

THE FOLLOWING QUESTIONS WILL DETERMINE IF YOU ARE AN INDEPENDENT OR DEPENDENT STUDENT:

- Are you a veteran of the U.S. Armed Forces? Yes No
- Are you 24 years of age or older? Yes No
- As of today, are you married? Yes No
- Do you have children who receive more than half of their support from you? Yes No
- Are both of your parents deceased, or are you a ward/dependent of the court? Yes No
- Do you have dependents who live with you & receive more than ½ of their support from you? Yes No

If you answered NO to **every** question, you are a DEPENDENT student. Complete Section 1 and provide parents' tax documents.

If you answered YES to **any** question, you are an INDEPENDENT student. Complete Section 2 and provide your tax documents.

Please cover visible SSNs.

SECTION 1 FOR DEPENDENT STUDENTS

- What is the size of your parents' household, including yourself? _____
- Did your parent(s) file a federal tax return? Yes No
- If yes, what was their **taxable income**? \$ _____
- Parent Signature _____
 - *Taxable income is found on line 15 on IRS tax form 1040*
 - *If a tax return was not filed, place a "0" on the line above for taxable income and submit a Tax Attestation*

SECTION 2 FOR INDEPENDENT STUDENTS

- What is the size of your household including yourself, spouse, and/or other dependents _____
- Did you file a federal tax return? Yes No
- If yes, what was your **taxable income**? \$ _____
 - *Taxable income is found on line 15 on IRS tax form 1040*
 - *If a tax return was not filed, place a "0" on the line above for taxable income and submit a Tax Attestation*



PART II (FIRST GENERATION VERIFICATION)

Did either of your parents (natural or adoptive) earn a bachelor's degree? YES NO

1. Please indicate Mother's highest grade level of education completed:

(Circle One) 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12

College degree earned, if any: Associate Bachelor Master Doctorate

2. Please indicate Father's highest grade level of education completed:

(Circle One) 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12

College degree earned, if any: Associate Bachelor Master Doctorate

3. Whom did you reside with or receive support from (up to age 18)?

Mother only Father only Both parent(s)/guardian(s)

C. ACADEMIC BACKGROUND

1. Current overall GPA: _____

2. Please list other academic institutions attended in the space below.

Institution	Dates Attended	Credits	GPA	Degree Earned (if applicable)

4. You must submit a copy of your unofficial transcripts with your application of all colleges attended, including a copy of your CSUS transcript.

5. What is your current undergraduate major? _____

6. Units Completed _____

7. What is your projected graduation date (Semester/Year)? _____

8. Are you interested in graduate school? Yes NO



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

11. Will you pursue an academic career in college/university teaching and/or research? YES NO

12. Please list any research experience you have:

Research Area	Supervisor/Mentor	Location	Dates

D. ADDITIONAL REQUIREMENTS

RECOMMENDATIONS

Provide three (3) letters of recommendation assessing your academic ability, research potential, and your motivation and preparation to undertake graduate study. At least two of the letters must be from faculty or community members. Please have your recommender address the letter to the program director and email to **mcnair@csus.edu**

PERSONAL STATEMENT

Please respond to the following questions and submit with your application (3 typed pages maximum).

- a.) Please discuss your reason for wanting to participate in the California State University, Sacramento Ronald E. McNair Scholars Program.
- b.) Have you experienced social, economic, or other disadvantages that you have had to overcome? Please discuss the ways in which these experiences have affected your academic opportunities.
- c.) Please discuss your academic and career goals, and research interests. In addition, discuss your potential to succeed in a doctoral program.



I certify to the best of my knowledge that the information given on the application is true, accurate, and correct. I further authorize the McNair Scholars Program to request and receive copies of my entire academic and financial aid records, including transcripts, grade reports, financial aid eligibility, and any other information pertaining to enrollment in the McNair Scholars Program at any time they deem necessary.

Signature & Date

Please submit to mcnair@csus.edu upon completion

The McNair Scholars Program promotes equal opportunity and educational excellence.