Established in the Office of Minority Student Affairs (OMSA) in 1990, the TRIO Ronald E. McNair Post-Baccalaureate Achievement Program (McNair Scholars) provides research, mentoring, advising, and graduate school preparation opportunities for eligible sophomores, juniors and seniors. McNair Scholars engage in rigorous research with faculty mentors, attend relevant workshops and seminars, and commit to preparing themselves for doctoral studies following the completion of an undergraduate degree. We envision a program in which all McNair Scholars achieve academic and personal success so they can become the next generation of scientists, researchers, and professors.

To be eligible for the TRIO McNair Program, students must be: a citizen or permanent resident of the United States; currently enrolled as a full-time undergraduate student at the U of I; a sophomore or above with an undergraduate cumulative grade point average of at least 2.85; committed to earning a doctorate; and, be a member of a group underrepresented in graduate education (i.e., American Indian or Alaska Native, Black or African American, Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander). Additionally, preference will be given to first-generation university students who also meet the income level established by the U.S. Department of Education. Lastly, candidates must participate in all McNair sponsored activities/events.

Benefits of participation in the TRIO McNair Scholars program include:

- Preparation for Graduate Education
- Graduate School Fairs and Application Waiver
- GRE Prep and Fee Reduction Voucher
- Training, Workshops, and Connection to Campus Resources
- Research Mentorship
- Summer Research Institute with Stipend
- Spring Research Seminar Course
- One-On-One and Peer Mentoring
- Research Presentations On-Campus and at Conferences

To be eligible for the TRIO McNair Program, students must be: a citizen or permanent resident of the United States; currently enrolled as a full-time undergraduate student at the U of I; a sophomore or above with an undergraduate cumulative grade point average of at least 2.85; committed to earning a doctorate; and, be a member of a group underrepresented in graduate education (i.e., American Indian or Alaska Native, Black or African American, Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander). Additionally, preference will be given to first-generation university students who also meet the income level established by the U.S. Department of Education. Lastly, candidates must participate in all McNair sponsored activities/events.

Data from the 2018-2019 OMSA Annual Report. TRIO McNair Scholars is funded by a grant from the U.S. Department of Education.