McNair Graduate Scholars Program
2024 – 2026
Announcement Date: 10/17/23

The School of Graduate Education is pleased to announce the creation of a new funding program designed to recruit and support McNair Scholars for UW graduate programs. All master's and doctoral degree programs are strongly encouraged to nominate eligible candidates for these awards. **Graduate programs & departments may nominate candidates for McNair Graduate Scholars positions for new graduate students who will matriculate at UW in Fall 2024.** The McNair Graduate Scholar awards provide support for former McNair Scholars while working toward their graduate degrees.

Eligibility: Eligible candidates must be alumni of a TRIO McNair Post-Baccalaureate Achievement Program and must be recommended for admission to a UW graduate program for the upcoming fall semester. All graduate programs at the University of Wyoming are eligible to nominate candidates. Preference will be given to those applicants who intend to enroll in a U.W. Ph.D. program.

Nomination deadline: Nominations for incoming doctoral students should be submitted by January 31, 2024. Nominations for incoming master's students should be submitted by March 15, 2024. Nominations after these dates will be considered if funding is still available.

For more information on the **TRIO Ronald E. McNair Post-Baccalaureate Achievement Program**, please see:
- [University of Wyoming McNair Scholars Program](#)
- [National McNair Scholars Program](#)

Nominations of University of Wyoming McNair Scholars Program alumni are especially encouraged.

The **McNair Graduate Scholar** provides funding for eligible master's and doctoral students for two years.   Up to five McNair Graduate Scholar awards will be made each year with the funding being awarded for a four-year period for doctoral students and a two-year period for master's students.

Stipends and Benefits for Doctoral Students (for awards beginning Fall 2024)
SGE McNair Graduate Scholars funding is only available for the first two years, and this stipend rate is higher than the base UW GA rate. Programs are encouraged to commit to funding the student for additional years at the same or higher stipend rate.

Academic Year	SGE Support
2024-25	<u>FT Graduate Teaching Assistantship:</u> - **$21,258** stipend - up to 12 cr. hrs. of graduate resident tuition - all mandatory student fees - full student health insurance
2025-26	<u>FT Graduate Teaching Assistantship:</u> - **$21,258** stipend - up to 12 cr. hrs. of graduate resident tuition - all mandatory student fees - full student health insurance

Stipends and Benefits for Master's Students (for awards beginning Fall 2024)
Note: SGE funding is available for the first two years, and this rate is higher than the base UW GA rate.

Academic Year	SGE Support
2024-25	<u>FT Graduate Teaching Assistantship:</u> - **$15,318** stipend - up to 12 cr. hrs. of graduate resident tuition - all mandatory student fees - full student health insurance
2025-26	<u>FT Graduate Teaching Assistantship:</u> - **$15,318** stipend - up to 12 cr. hrs. of graduate resident tuition - all mandatory student fees - full student health insurance

Additional Funding
Summer Funding: Awardees' academic units are strongly encouraged to provide full summer funding for McNair Graduate Scholars. Dependent on availability of funding, the School of

Graduate Education may provide one month (June) of graduate assistantship support to McNair Graduate Scholars.

Barkhurst Dissertation/Thesis Writing Fellowship: McNair Graduate Scholars are encouraged to apply for a Barkhurst Dissertation/Thesis Writing Fellowship for their final semester. McNair Graduate Scholars will be given priority for these fellowships.

Advisors

All McNair Graduate Scholars must have an advisor upon enrollment (the advisor may or may not be the student's dissertation advisor), and this must be recorded in Banner. Advisors will be expected to complete a status update each semester.

Nominations

U.W. graduate programs seeking to nominate eligible candidates should complete and submit the online nomination form (see link, below) by January 31, 2024 (for doctoral) or March 15, 2024 (for master's). *Please note that part of this submission uploading a letter of support from the nominee's undergraduate McNair Program Director/P.I.* Nominations following these dates will be considered if funding is still available.

Selection

All nominations will be reviewed by the McNair Graduate Scholar selection committee comprising two members of Graduate Council (at least one will be a faculty representative), and one representative of the UW McNair Scholars Program. The selection committee will make award recommendations to the Vice Provost & Dean of Graduate Education who will decide on final awarding. Programs will be notified of awards by February 28, 2024 for doctoral nominees and by April 10, 2024 for master's nominees. Awarded nominees will be notified by the School of Graduate Education.

McNair Graduate Scholars Program Nomination Form
(submissions will be made via an online form which will be announced in the coming weeks)

1. Nominee's full name
2. Nominee's SalesForce App-ID number
3. Specific graduate degree program name
4. Intended completion date for nominee's graduate degree
5. Please upload a Letter of Support from the nominee's undergraduate McNair Program Director/P.I.
6. Please describe the nominee's exceptional qualifications and promise and include what contributions the nominee is likely to make to the program and discipline.
7. Please describe how the program is committed to successful mentoring of graduate students who are McNair Scholar alumni. This should include actions the program has taken to create a supportive environment for diverse students, the work of faculty who have supported the objectives of the McNair Program by acting as faculty mentors for the Undergraduate Research Internship, past successes in recruiting and graduating graduate students from underrepresented backgrounds, and/or best practices in mentoring graduate students.
8. Describe (and provide links to, as appropriate) all policies, procedures, and resources communicated to your program's graduate students. Usually, these are in the form of a Graduate Handbook that is given to students, available on the program's website, and updated annually.
9. Describe how your program transparently and equitably communicates and awards graduate students with research, funding, and professional development opportunities.
10. If a PhD student, how will the department continue to fund the student following the completion of the McNair Graduate Scholars funding? Please note that programs are encouraged to provide a stipend rate for subsequent years at an amount equal to or higher than the McNair Graduate Scholars rate.

In addition to the information provided in the nomination form, the McNair Graduate Scholar selection committee will also access the nominee's graduate application materials via SalesForce.