



**UNIVERSITY OF MARYLAND**  
**ACADEMIC ACHIEVEMENT PROGRAMS**  
**Ronald E. McNair Post-Baccalaureate Achievement Program**  
**(McNair Scholars Program)**

**PARTICIPATION and HONOR AGREEMENT**

**Instructions:** If you accept the terms of the Agreement, please sign and date below and return by the deadline in your acceptance letter. **Keep a copy for your records.** You have a right to ask questions to ensure that you understand the commitments. If you have questions or complaints about this process, please contact: Associate Director, McNair Program, 301-405-4749. You may use your email address as your electronic signature and return via email if you wish.

**Parties to the Agreement** This is an Agreement between Academic Achievement Programs' Ronald E. McNair Post-Baccalaureate Achievement Program (**McNair Scholars Program**) and the student signing this Agreement.

**Program Mission** The University of Maryland's **McNair Scholars Program (UM-MSP)** is a national TRiO program. UM-MSP is funded by the U.S. Department of Education and the University of Maryland, College Park. **The purpose of UM-MSP is to provide scholarly and other academic experiences that prepare participants for graduate education and the Ph.D. degree.** To continue receiving the benefits of UM-MSP, participants are expected to participate fully by completing *at least* the designated tasks below as requested by staff.

**Commitment 1: Personal and Academic Integrity**

- Comply with all University academic policies and procedures for "good" academic standing
- Notify McNair staff of any changes in enrollment status, GPA, address, or email address
- Maintain a full-time enrollment status
- Maintain a cumulative GPA equal to or greater than cumulative GPA when admitted into program (**note: competitive GPA for graduate school and fellowships starts at 3.00**)
- Maintain agreed-upon tutoring schedule in every course that has a "C" or lower grade
- Provide prompt response to all McNair communications
- Notify McNair staff 24-hours in advance of any appointment cancellation or changes, or no less than 24 hours after a missed appointment due to personal emergency
- Notify McNair staff of any and all potential schedule conflicts, including but not limited to, class time conflicts, vacation or other travel, or personal emergency a few days prior to the scheduled event. Last minute notices will not be accepted except for life-altering events (e.g., a death, severe accidents, military reasons, severe sickness, marriage, birth)
- Comply with terms of the **Goals Checklist** that will be established with McNair Advisor
- Maintain familiarity with **Handbook** and other policies that govern participation

**Commitment 2: Fall Semester**

- Communicate with McNair Mentor at least once-a-month
- Submit assessment documents (e.g., transcripts, grades, academic plans, goal statements, work schedules) each semester and as requested
- Attend monthly workshops each semester
- Attend monthly (and other sessions as requested) academic advising sessions with assigned McNair Advisor
- Attend at least one graduate school fair on your or another campus if you have not done so
- Present **oral research** at one McNair or other research conference if you have not done so
- Recommend other outstanding students for the UM-MSP

**Commitment 3: Spring Semester**

- Communicate with McNair Mentor at least once-a-month
- Submit assessment documents (e.g., transcripts, grades, academic plans, goal statements, work schedules) each semester and as requested
- Attend monthly workshops each semester

- Commitment 3 Continued: Spring Semester**
- Attend monthly (and other sessions as requested) academic advising sessions with assigned McNair Advisor
  - Submit a research proposal for the upcoming summer program by the advertised deadline
  - Attend Pre-Summer Institute if selected to participate in the Summer Research Institute (**note: 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> year scholars must identify at least 3 potential off-site research locations to conduct summer research**)
  - Attend at least one graduate school fair on your or another campus if you have not done so
  - Present **oral research** at one McNair or other research conference if you have not done so
  - Recommend other outstanding students for the UM-MSP

- Commitment 4: Summer Research Institute**
- Adhere to class schedule
  - Complete at least twenty (20) hours per week of mentor-guided research
  - Attend research methods course, instructional seminars, and other scheduled activities unless a waiver is granted
  - Attend advising sessions with McNair Advisor
  - Complete oral presentation of research project and/or findings before end of program
  - Submit the abstract; introduction chapter; literature review chapter; methods chapter; and preliminary findings, conclusions, and recommendations chapters by end of Summer Research Institute using APA writing format and guidelines
  - Complete summer evaluation by advertised deadline
  - Complete all other assigned summer projects and assignments by advertised deadline

**Commitment 5: Compensation and Reimbursing the Program for Expenses Incurred**

Active participants will receive stipends. Stipends are determined annually, may vary from year to year, and shall be disbursed according to published schedules. Typically, stipends are disbursed during the summer research program. All tasks must be completed **fully and satisfactorily**. **UM-MSP must be reimbursed immediately for expenses incurred for activities in which the scholar agreed to participate but did not. If necessary, the remaining or future stipends may be reduced to reimburse the program.**

**Accountability** Participation in the UM-MSP is an honor and a privilege. Therefore, non-compliance with the above commitments may result in reduced or no stipends and/or dismissal.

The parties below have read, understand and accept the terms aforementioned and executed in this Agreement on the date specified adjacent to their respective signatures below:

#### McNAIR PROGRAM

\_\_\_\_\_  
Dr. Jerry L. Lewis, Executive Director/Project Director

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Dr. LaToya Walters, Director

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

#### THE McNAIR SCHOLAR

\_\_\_\_\_  
Printed Student's Name

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of Student (or electronic signature in form of email address)

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Primary Phone Number

\_\_\_\_\_  
Preferred Mailing Address

\_\_\_\_\_  
Preferred Email Address