

# McNair Scholars Program



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## 2017-2018 Highlights

- 42 alumni are currently enrolled in a master's program
- 13 alumni are currently enrolled in doctoral programs
- 131 students have received a master's degree since 1995
- 24 alumni graduated with doctoral degrees since 1995
- More than 200 students presented at local, regional, and/or national conferences
- More than 200 students published works in undergraduate journals

**T**he McNair Scholars Program is federally funded and designed to provide research and scholarly activities that promote the acquisition of a doctoral degree for first generation, low-income and underrepresented college students. The program began in 1989 and is named after Ronald E. McNair, PhD to increase the number of minorities pursuing teaching and administrative careers in higher education. While working on laser physics at the Hughes Research Laboratory, McNair was accepted into the NASA astronaut program and was the second African-American to fly in space. During McNair's second mission, the Space Shuttle Challenger exploded 90 seconds into its flight, killing all seven crewmembers.

In 1995, Wichita State received funding from the U.S. Department of Education to begin the McNair Scholars Program. The program provides services to ensure that participants graduate with bachelor's degrees and enter graduate programs that lead to doctoral degrees. The program serves 28 students each year.

### Core Program Services

- Writing skills development and tutoring
- Research methods course
- Faculty-led seminars, graduate preparation seminars and research assembly meetings
- Personalized mentoring from faculty
- GRE preparation
- Graduate school campus visits

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