

**WINTHROP UNIVERSITY**  
**University College**  
**McNair Scholars Program**

**ANNOUNCEMENT OF VACANCY**

**POSITION:** McNair Graduate Associate

**ABOUT THE PROGRAM**

Since 2009, Winthrop has received federal funding to implement the Ronald E. McNair Postbaccalaureate Achievement Program at Winthrop. This is a renewable, five-year TRiO grant currently providing \$272,364 per year to help 30 eligible undergraduates complete high-quality research and prepare to succeed in research doctorate programs. At least two-thirds of all participants in every cohort must be low-income individuals who are first generation college students. The U.S. Department of Education describes the program in this way (from <https://www.ed.gov/grants-and-programs/grants-higher-education/trio/trio--ronald-e-mcnair-postbaccalaureate-achievement-program--home-page> downloaded 03/05/2025).

**Program Description**

*Through a grant competition, funds are awarded to institutions of higher education to prepare eligible participants for doctoral studies through involvement in research and other scholarly activities. Participants are from disadvantaged backgrounds and have demonstrated strong academic potential. Institutions work closely with participants as they complete their undergraduate requirements. Institutions encourage participants to enroll in graduate programs and then track their progress through to the successful completion of advanced degrees. The goal is to increase the attainment of Ph.D. degrees by students from underrepresented segments of society.*

**Types of Projects**

*All McNair projects must provide the following activities: opportunities for research or other scholarly activities; summer internships; seminars and other educational activities designed to prepare students for doctoral study; tutoring; academic counseling; and activities designed to assist students participating in the project in securing admission to and financial assistance for enrollment in graduate programs. McNair projects may also provide the following additional activities: education or counseling services designed to improve financial and economic literacy of students; mentoring programs involving faculty members at institutions of higher education or students, or any combination of such persons; and exposure to cultural events and academic programs not usually available to disadvantaged students.*

## POSITION QUALIFICATIONS

The **Graduate Associate (GA)** will hold a bachelor's degree and be currently enrolled full-time in a Winthrop graduate program. Any field of study is acceptable, but preference will be given to fields where research and/or writing are emphasized. **Minimum Work Experience** is at least one research presentation at a professional or academic conference and at least six months experience working with disadvantaged populations (undergraduate teamwork is sufficient). **Preferred, But Not Required, Qualifications** include being an alumnus of or eligible for McNair or a similar program, at least six months paid or volunteer experience that required customer service and/or recordkeeping skills, experiencing moderating social network pages, and experience with web design or the Adobe professional suite. (Adapted from the funded 2022 Proposal)

## POSITION DUTIES

The Graduate Associate's (GA) primary role will be communicating with prospective, current, and prior year participants as well as tracking and documenting accomplishments of current and participants and alumni as described elsewhere in this plan. The GA will also directly serve participants by providing graduate admissions assistance, financial aid assistance, and research project support. The GA will also support Program Assistant and Director in their roles.

## SALARY & TUITION WAIVER

The compensation package for this position includes **year-round wages and tuition assistance totaling \$18,200 + fringe**. The federally-funded salary is **\$15 per hour in the fall, spring, and summer**. The Winthrop-funded **tuition assistance is \$3,500 for fall, \$3,500 for spring, and \$1,000 summer**. The GA works up to 20 hours per week and a total of 260 hours in the fall semester and up to 20 hours per week and a total of 260 hours in the spring semester. In the summer, the GA works up to 20 hours per week and a total of 160 hours in the summer. The position will start the first day of classes for the fall and the spring, and the first day of class for summer session A.

## GEPA Statement

Preference will be given to qualified applicants who are McNair alumni (with first preference going to Winthrop McNair alumni), then to qualified applicants who meet McNair eligibility criteria. Winthrop will follow the GEPA policy as directed in it the 2022 application. The current GEPA statement is posted on the program's landing page ([www.winthrop.edu/mcnair](http://www.winthrop.edu/mcnair)).

## **APPLICATION**

To apply for this position, follow the application requirements specified in the student portal of the Applicant Tracking System (<https://www.winthrop.edu/hr/student.aspx>).

In their materials, applicants must specify how they meet the required qualifications of a conference presentation and experience working with disadvantaged populations. Additionally, applicants are encouraged to specify preferred qualifications or other relevant skills/training/ experiences that would benefit them in the GA role.

Please contact the McNair Program with questions.

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Applications will be considered until a suitable candidate is found.