The UCF McNair Scholars Program, first funded in fall 2003, is designed to assist its participants in gaining admission to graduate programs leading to a doctoral degree. The program targets low-income and first-generation students and members of groups that are underrepresented in graduate education. McNair is funded by the U.S. Department of Education through its Office of Federal TRiO Programs. McNair has served over 200 students since 2003.

Who are the UCF McNair Scholars?

- **200+** Participants Since 2003
- **75%** First-Generation College Students
- **40%** Transfer Students
- **77%** Low Income
- **87%** Underrepresented in graduate education

Program Outcomes

- **100%** Completed bachelor’s degrees
- **46%** Currently enrolled or completed masters degrees
- **41%** Currently enrolled or completed PhD programs
- **5%** Currently enrolled or completed professional doctorates

Prestigious Awards

- **26** NSF GRFP Recipients
- **3** Goldwater Scholars
- **1** Pickering Scholar
- **3** Frost/Oxford Scholars
- **12** Order of Pegasus
- **2** Rangel Fellows
- **2** Gilman Scholars
- **2** Gubernatorial Fellows
- **1** Udall Fellow
- **2** Ford Fellows
- **1** Astronaut Scholar
Graduating Scholars

Julissa Burgos  
*Biomedical Sciences*  
Vanderbilt University  
Ph.D. in Biomedical and Biological Sciences

Gustavo Camero  
*Computer Engineering*  
Carnegie Mellon University  
Ph.D. in Computer Engineering

Stephanie Castelin  
*Psychology*  
University of Cincinnati  
Ph.D. in Clinical Psychology

Carla Garcia  
*Political Science & Economics*  
Massachusetts Institute of Technology  
Ph.D. in Political Science  
NSF GRFP Recipient | Rangel Scholar

Stefani Hammond  
*Anthropology*  
Johns Hopkins University  
Ph.D. in Functional Anatomy and Evolution

Luis Hurtado  
*Electrical Engineering*  
Carnegie Mellon University  
Ph.D. in Electrical Engineering  
GEM Fellowship Recipient

Isaiah Morales  
*Digital Media*  
University of Washington  
Masters in Human-Computer Interaction & Design

Darwins Olcima  
*Psychology*  
Bowling Green State University  
Masters in College Student Personnel

Bolivar Perez  
*Civil Engineering*  
University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign  
Masters in Civil and Environmental Engineering

Bianca Pizarro Vazquez  
*Sociology*  
The University of Texas at Austin  
Masters in Community and Regional Planning

George Walters-Marrah  
*Molecular Microbiology*  
Stanford University  
Ph.D. Program in Biophysics  
NSF GRFP Recipient | Goldwater Scholar

Summer Placements

Daniela Gonzalez  
*Psychology*  
Cornell University

Jean Jerome  
*Computer Science*  
United States Naval Research Lab

Belinda Joseph  
*Mechanical Engineering*  
Vanderbilt University

Priscilla Louis  
*Biomedical Science & Psychology*  
Brown University

Stephanie Schreiner  
*Biology*  
Northwestern University

Bryan Medina  
*Computer Science and Mathematics*  
Massachusetts Institute of Technology

Sandra Montenegro  
*Psychology*  
University of Pennsylvania

Samuel Naranjo Rincon  
*Psychology*  
Massachusetts Institute of Technology

Ashley Santana  
*Biomedical Sciences & Biotechnology*  
Stanford University  
Goldwater Scholar

Yamina Sfiat  
*Criminal Justice and Political Science*  
Northwestern University

Tiffany Sidders  
*English*  
Vanderbilt University

Alan Trudeau  
*Chemistry*  
Rutgers University

Natalie Verdiguier  
*Psychology*  
Cornell University

UCF Research Experience

Camila Acevedo  
*Computer Science*  
University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign

Oluwagbome Akinsoji  
*Chemistry*  
University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign

Marina Collier  
*English Literature*  
University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign

Kevin Galeano  
*Computer Science*  
University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign

Gillian Gomer  
*Biology*  
University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign

Kelsey Perez  
*Civil Engineering*  
University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign