Program Highlights 2024

The UCF McNair Scholars Program, first funded in 2003, is designed to assist its participants in gaining admission to graduate programs leading to a doctoral degree. The program supports low-income and first-generation students and members of traditionally underrepresented groups in graduate education. McNair is funded by the U.S. Department of Education through its Office of Federal TRiO Programs. Scholars participate in activities related to graduate school preparation, conduct research under the guidance of a faculty mentor, and present at local, regional, and national conferences.

Students have graduated from the UCF McNair Program: 242
80% Of program graduates have completed or are enrolled in a graduate degree program

$5.2M In National Fellowship Funding Earned
40 NSF GRFP Awardees
61 Ph.Ds. Earned
39 Currently Enrolled in Ph.D. Programs
100% Overall Graduation Rate from UCF Undergrad

Graduate School Outcomes

Top 5 Masters (Degrees Conferred)
1. University of Central Florida
2. Michigan State University
3. University of Oxford
4. University of Chicago
5. Massachusetts Institute of Tech., Georgia Institute of Technology & Vanderbilt University

Top 5 Ph.D. (Degrees Conferred)
1. University of Central Florida
2. Vanderbilt University
3. University of Pennsylvania
4. Georgia Institute of Technology
5. Brown University

Top 5 Masters & Ph.D. Combined (Degrees Conferred)
1. University of Central Florida
2. Vanderbilt University
3. Georgia Institute of Technology
4. University of Pennsylvania
5. Michigan State University

Raquel Toro-Espinal
Assistant Director, UCF McNair Scholars Program

I empower students pursuing doctoral studies and streamline operations to create pathways for success. Our program offers mentorship, fosters curiosity, and assists with graduate school applications. My advice to scholars is: “Trust the process, stay focused, and remember you’re not alone on this journey”.

JOIN THE MCNAIR SCHOLARS PROGRAM!
Contact us at aap@ucf.edu

“McNair has always been a place I can call home. One that pushes me to do my best and get out of my comfort zone. There’s always been a sense of support and community and without McNair I don’t think I would’ve gotten as far as I have.”

Jean J. Jerome
Brown University Ph.D. Student