



Laura Zamudio

McNair Scholar Graduate

Becoming a part of the Ronald E McNair Scholars Program was one of the best decisions I have made while attending Eastern Washington University. As a first generation student, this program has allowed me to meet some of the most influential professors, staff, and McNair scholars who have given me the confidence to apply and pursue graduate school after my undergraduate degree.

This program has also given me unconditional support by providing me opportunities to present research, attend professional conferences, and visit graduate school programs. This support allowed me to enhance my writing and curriculum vitae as I went through my process of graduate school application.

When I first arrived as a McNair scholar, I had no idea on how I would begin my graduate school application process. However, after a whole summer of conducting research and having weekly seminars, I was able to connect with professors and staff who understood my cultural background and gave me the resources to apply to seven graduate programs. This was a rigorous process, but McNair gave me the academic, financial, and emotional support necessary to finish strong.

I am now getting ready to begin my first quarter in a Ph.D. program in Curriculum and Instruction—Mathematics Education at Florida International University, with full funding. Joining the McNair family has been one of the best decisions I have made as an undergraduate!

 www.ewu.edu/mcnair



Before you can make a dream come true,
you must first have one.



Ronald E. McNair Post Baccalaureate Program

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.

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.

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