The ESSENTIAL FRIENDSHIP FOUNDATION

Dr. Ronald E. McNair Memorial 2021 Scholarship Application and Guidelines

"Whether or not you reach your goals in life depends entirely on how well you prepare for them and how badly you want them. You're eagles! Stretch your wings and fly to the sky."

Dr. Ronald E. McNair

Biography of Dr. Ronald E. McNair

Dr. Ronald E. McNair was born on October 21, 1950, in Lake City, SC. He received a B.S. in Physics from North Carolina A&T in 1971 and a Ph.D. in Physics from MIT in 1976. Dr. McNair was initiated into Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc. at Mu Psi Chapter, North Carolina A&T University on December 4, 1969. During his time in the Houston area, he was an active member of Rho Beta Beta Chapter of Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc.


In January of 1978, Dr. McNair was selected as a NASA astronaut candidate, completed a one-year training evaluation period in 1979 and qualified for assignment as the Mission Specialist on Space Shuttle flight crews. Tragically, Dr. McNair died on January 28, 1986, when the Space Shuttle Challenger exploded after launch from Kennedy Space Center in Florida.

Over the last several years we have awarded over $100,000 in academic scholarships to high school graduates, who have demonstrated financial need and high academic achievement. Many of our past recipients have matriculated at some of the finest universities and colleges in the nation. Upon graduation they have gone on to hold positions in law, medicine, engineering and many other professions.
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The Essential Friendship Foundation (EFF) is a non-profit organization located in Houston, Texas. Each year the EEF provides scholarship opportunities, through the Dr. Ronald E. McNair Memorial Scholarship, to worthy graduating high school seniors who reside in the Houston metropolitan area.

Eligibility Criteria:

• Applicant must be a resident of the Greater Houston Metropolitan area
• Applicant must be a graduating senior from a local high school in 2021
• Applicant must have applied to an accredited college/university in the Fall of 2021
• Applicant must be enrolled at an accredited college/university in the Fall of 2021

Application Process:

• Completed TYPED application form
• Passport Photo
• Official High School Transcript(s)
• A copy of your Official ACT and/or SAT Scores
• Two (2) letters of recommendations (One academic and one non-academic)
• A short typed double space essay (500 words or less) addressing the following:
  1. Why you should receive a Dr. Ronald E. McNair Memorial Scholarship
  2. Applicant must be able to attend a scheduled interview (possibly via ZOOM)
  3. Provide any additional information which may assist the selection committee

Selection Criteria:

• Overall GPA
• ACT/SAT Scores
• Essay (Content and Quality)
• Interviewing Skills
• Leadership and Extracurricular Activities

Award:

The amount of this scholarship will be determined by the funds allocated by Essential Friendship Foundation, the academic credentials of the applicant, and the applicant’s placement in relation to other scholarship applicants. Awards will be conferred to recipients upon proof of enrollment in an accredited college or university.

To be considered for the Dr. Roland E. McNair Memorial Scholarship, this application must be postmarked no later than June 30, 2021 and returned to: Essential Friendship Foundation Scholarship Committee, P.O. Box 791 Houston, TX 77001-0396
APPLICATION

PART I: PERSONAL INFORMATION

LAST NAME: ___________________ FIRST ___________________ MIDDLE ___________________
ADDRESS: ________________________________
CITY: ___________________ STATE: ___________ ZIP: ________________
PHONE NUMBER: ____________________________
EMAIL: ________________________________
DATE OF BIRTH: _____/_____/______
ARE YOU EMPLOYED? YES ______ NO _______ IF YES, WHERE? ____________________________
JOB TITLE: ________________________________

PLEASE DESCRIBE YOUR JOB DUTIES OR RESPONSIBILITIES:

PART II: FAMILY INFORMATION

FATHER’S NAME: ________________________________
ADDRESS: ___________________ CITY: ___________ STATE: ___________
OCCUPATION: ________________________________
PHONE: ___________________ EMAIL: ________________________________

MOTHER’S NAME: ________________________________
ADDRESS: ___________________ CITY: ___________ STATE: ___________
OCCUPATION: ________________________________
PHONE: ___________________ EMAIL: ________________________________
GUARDIAN’S NAME: ________________________________________________________________

GUARDIAN’S RELATIONSHIP TO APPLICANT: ______________________________________

ADDRESS: ___________________ CITY: _______________ STATE: _______________

OCCUPATION: ________________________________________________________________

PHONE: ___________________ EMAIL: ____________________________________________

NUMBER AND AGE(s) OF SIBLING(s). IF APPLICABLE: ________________________________

PLEASE INDICATE THE NUMBER OF FAMILY MEMBERS IN HOUSEHOLD CURRENTLY ATTENDING A TRADE SCHOOL, COLLEGE OR UNIVERSITY: __________

PART III: ACADEMICS

NAME OF HIGH SCHOOL: _________________________________________________________

ADDRESS: ___________________ CITY: _______________ STATE: _______________

COUNSELOR’S NAME: ___________________ PHONE: ___________________

GRADE POINT AVERAGE: ___________ SCALE: ___________

SAT SCORE: _______ DATE TAKEN: _______ ACT SCORE: _______ DATE TAKEN: _______

PLEASE LIST COLLEGES OR UNIVERSITIES TO WHICH YOU WILL APPLY FOR ADMISSION:

COLLEGE(s) APPLIED TO: _______________________________________________________

______________________________________________________________________________

______________________________________________________________________________

COLLEGE ACCEPTANCE? YES OR NO INTENDED MAJOR: ____________________________

PART IV: EXTRACURRICULAR ACTIVITIES (ATTACH ADDITIONAL PAGES IF NECESSARY)

SCHOOL ACTIVITIES

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2
The ESSENTIAL FRIENDSHIP FOUNDATION
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COMMUNITY ACTIVITIES

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PLEASE LIST ANY LEADERSHIP ROLES:

_____________________________________________________________________________

PLEASE LIST ANY HONORS OR SPECIAL AWARDS RECEIVED:

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PART V: ESSAY

In 500 words or less (typed, double-spaced), please write a concise essay addressing (1) why you should receive a Dr. Ronald E. McNair Memorial Scholarship, (2) your professional career objectives, (3) how this scholarship will help you reach your goals, (4) describe your involvement in the community and (5) any additional information which may assist the selection committee.

(Attach Typed Essay to The Back of The Application)
Are any of your family members affiliated with a Greek-Letter Organization? If so, please list Name, Chapter and City/State of residence. If not, please enter N/A.

Name: ___________________________ Organization/Relationship: ___________________________

Name: ___________________________ Organization/Relationship: ___________________________

Name: ___________________________ Organization/Relationship: ___________________________

I hereby acknowledge that the information contained in this application is true and correct to the best of my knowledge.

___________________________________________
Applicant’s Signature

___________________________________________
Date

___________________________________________
Parent(s)/Guardian(s) Signature

___________________________________________
Date

*Your email address will be used to confirm receipt of application*

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Essential Friendship Foundation

P.O. Box 791

Houston, TX. 77001-0396