

# The ESSENTIAL FRIENDSHIP FOUNDATION

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



**Dr. Ronald E. McNair**

October 21, 1950 – January 28, 1986

**"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

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### 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.

**SPECIAL HONORS:** Graduated Magna Cum Laude from North Carolina A&T (1971); named a Presidential Scholar (1967-1971), a Ford Foundation Fellow (1971-1974), a National Fellowship Fund Fellow (1974-1975), a NATO Fellow (1975); Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc. Scholar of the Year (1975); Los Angeles Public School System's Service Commendation (1979), Distinguished Alumni Award (1979), National Society of Black Professional Engineers Distinguished National Scientist Award (1979), Friend of Freedom Award (1981), Who's Who Among Black Americans (1980), an AAU Karate Gold Medal (1976), five Regional Black Belt Karate Championships and numerous proclamations and achievement awards. In addition, Dr. McNair was a performing jazz saxophonist.

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 EFF 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

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# 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: \_\_\_\_\_

# The ESSENTIAL FRIENDSHIP FOUNDATION

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

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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### COMMUNITY ACTIVITIES


PLEASE LIST ANY LEADERSHIP ROLES: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

PLEASE LIST ANY HONORS OR SPECIAL AWARDS RECEIVED: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

### **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)**

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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\***

**To be considered for the Dr. Ronald E. McNair Memorial Scholarship, this application must be postmarked no later than **June 30, 2021**, and returned to:**

**Essential Friendship Foundation**

**P.O. Box 791**

**Houston, TX. 77001-0396**