




MCNAIR SCHOLARS

FRANCIS MARION UNIVERSITY



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High-level research is often thought of as something reserved for graduate students, but for Jessica McNeill, it was a vital part of her McNair Scholar experience. Jessica and her classmates took part in projects researching characteristics of cervical cancer and how to detect it sooner as a part of being a McNair Scholar.

Be a leader

Francis Marion University's prestigious Robert E. McNair Scholarship recognizes South Carolina students who have demonstrated both academic excellence and a strong desire for a life of public service. It is named after former South Carolina Governor Robert E. McNair, whose career serves as an exemplar for scholarship recipients.

The McNair Scholarship is FMU's most prestigious scholarship. Recipients receive a virtually cost-free education at one of

the state's best public universities, gain access to an array of experiences designed to broaden and enrich their lives, and join the ranks of McNair alumni, a growing band who are making their mark across South Carolina and beyond.

The McNair Scholarship is a competitive scholarship that identifies recipients through a comprehensive process. The selection criteria includes written essays, evaluation of a student's academic records, recommendations, and in-person interviews.

The benefits of the McNair

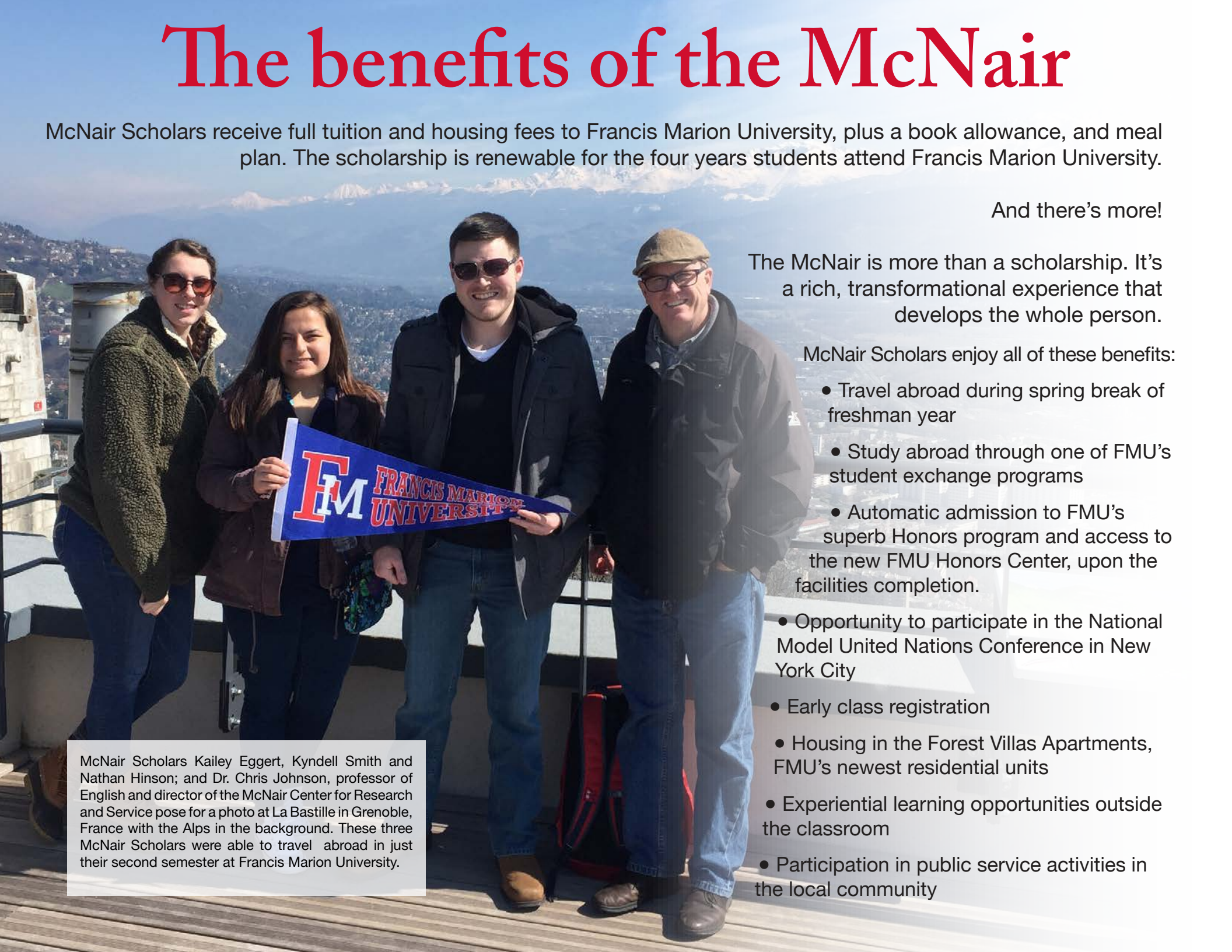
McNair Scholars receive full tuition and housing fees to Francis Marion University, plus a book allowance, and meal plan. The scholarship is renewable for the four years students attend Francis Marion University.

And there's more!

The McNair is more than a scholarship. It's a rich, transformational experience that develops the whole person.

McNair Scholars enjoy all of these benefits:

- Travel abroad during spring break of freshman year
- Study abroad through one of FMU's student exchange programs
- Automatic admission to FMU's superb Honors program and access to the new FMU Honors Center, upon the facilities completion.
- Opportunity to participate in the National Model United Nations Conference in New York City
- Early class registration
- Housing in the Forest Villas Apartments, FMU's newest residential units
- Experiential learning opportunities outside the classroom
- Participation in public service activities in the local community



McNair Scholars Kailey Eggert, Kyndell Smith and Nathan Hinson; and Dr. Chris Johnson, professor of English and director of the McNair Center for Research and Service pose for a photo at La Bastille in Grenoble, France with the Alps in the background. These three McNair Scholars were able to travel abroad in just their second semester at Francis Marion University.

To be a McNair is to travel

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Study Abroad Opportunities

McNair Scholars are granted the opportunity to spend time abroad in one of FMU's 13 prestigious partner universities located around the globe in seven countries.

1. De Montfort University, Leicester, England
2. Carlow College, Carlow, Ireland
3. University College Cork, Cork, Ireland (Begins Spring 2019)
4. EAH Jena University of Applied Sciences, Jena, Germany
5. FH University of Applied Sciences Schmalkalden, Schmalkalden, Germany
6. Universität Trier, Trier, Germany
7. Universität Koblenz-Landau, Landau, Germany
8. Université de Caen Basse-Normandie, Caen, France
9. University of Prince Edward Island, Charlottetown, Prince Edward Island, Canada
10. University of Northern British Columbia, Prince George, B.C., Canada
11. Montpellier Business School, Montpellier, France (Begins Fall 2019)

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Travel Study Courses

12. European Academy Otzenhausen, Otzenhausen, Germany (Late Spring Semester)
13. Wildsumaco Biological Station, Ecuador (Late Spring, Summer I or Summer II)

Where service begins

Francis Marion University's McNair Scholars are selected, in large part, for their interest in a life of public service. Fulfilling that desire continues at FMU. Every McNair Scholar participates in volunteer public service work and completes a public service project while at FMU.

Volunteer Service

Volunteer opportunities for McNair Scholars have included the following on and off-campus activities:

On-Campus

FMU Diplomats and Ambassadors – Assist with student recruiting, conducting campus tours, meeting prospective students and attending designated off-campus events as representatives of FMU.

Student Marshals – Assist graduates during commencement ceremonies.

Student Organization Leadership – Direct the operations and activities of diverse student groups, including fraternities, sororities, honor societies and service-oriented organizations.

Off-Campus

Pee Dee Coalition Against Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault – Provide assistance for a variety of activities that support the Coalition's work and goals.

McLeod Health – Volunteer at the region's largest comprehensive medical center.

Florence County School Districts – Volunteer in and out of the classroom at local schools.

Science South – The Florence-based science education center offers McNair Scholars the chance to share their love of science and learning through volunteer activities associated with the facility's programming.

Personal Projects

Each McNair Scholar also designs and completes a personal service project. Recent service projects include:

- **Golf Tournament** – A Scholar organized a golf tournament, which raised approximately \$10,000 for the Pee Dee Coalition's Durant Children's Center and Prevent Child Abuse America.
- **Pee Dee Coalition Against Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault** – A Scholar updated materials distributed by the Coalition and helped write and edit the organization's newsletter and grant proposals.
- **After School Garage Band** – A Scholar organized an after school garage band for a high school without a music program. Free guitar lessons were offered to interested students at this high school.
- **Safe Kids** – A Scholar worked with the McLeod Health Foundation's Safe Kids pilot project by assembling and distributing 5,000 medical kits to homes in the eleven counties McLeod serves.
- **Summer Institute for Smarties** – A Scholar created this program for children in grades 1 – 6 to help reduce the amount of learning loss that students face during the summer.
- **NASA Saturday** – A Scholar assisted staff of a local children's science center in planning, teaching, and running demonstrations during "NASA Saturday" programs, an educational outreach program funded by a NASA grant.
- **FMU Student Leadership Conference** – A Scholar was instrumental in planning a Student Leadership Conference at FMU.

Meet a McNair

Emma Driggers Mauldin, SC

Why FMU? I first learned about FMU during my junior year of high school, when I was recruited to run cross country and track by (FMU track and field) Coach Bluman. I was looking for a small university where I would have many opportunities to travel, complete a double major, and be involved in a variety of activities. Once I decided to run in college, FMU was by far the best option.

Study Abroad. I will study abroad at l'Université de Caen in Normandy, France.

Service Project. I am planning to work with the Florence County Museum on a regional history service project that brings the community together. I have been volunteering at the Florence County Museum for the past year and a half, and the experience has really opened my eyes to the wonderful culture of the Pee Dee. I would like to bring history, the community, and the museum together in this project.

Where do you go from here? After graduation, I plan to pursue a master's degree in museum studies. I don't know where I'll go yet, but I am hoping to go somewhere in the west, northeast, or maybe even overseas. Right now, I am preparing everything I need to be ready for graduate school and planning to work within a bigger museum.

Advice for the "next" McNair generation. I would suggest incoming McNairs be open to new experiences. Make the most of all the travel, organizational, career, academic, and athletic opportunities that FMU offers. The McNair Scholarship and FMU have given me all of these. I would also suggest that incoming students get involved with the Pee Dee community—there is so much to enjoy and there are so many kind, gracious people. That is how I became involved with the Florence County Museum. Also, have fun at the Soulé Café coffee shop close to campus.





ROBERT E. MCNAIR
SCIENCE BUILDING

McNair Scholarship Criteria

Candidates for the Robert E. McNair Scholarship at Francis Marion University must meet the following criteria:

- Be a full-time South Carolina resident
- Be a high school senior
- Be admitted to FMU prior to the December 1 McNair deadline
- Maintain a high school cumulative GPA of 3.0 or higher
- Have a combined SAT score (Evidence-Based Reading & Writing and Math) of 1160 or higher or a 24 or higher ACT score
- Possess a demonstrated interest in public service
- Deliver a completed McNair application and all additional required materials (essays, two letters of recommendation) to the Director of the Robert E. McNair Center by **December 1**.

The Robert E. McNair Center

The Robert E. McNair Center for Research and Service provides a collaborative setting for academic and outreach initiatives that strengthen ties between the University and the greater community.

The Center supports a number of outreach programs at Francis Marion which include:

- International Studies Program - an exchange program that gives students the opportunity to study abroad in one of our international locations.
- Model United Nations Program - a national program that builds political awareness and diplomatic skills.
- The Governor Robert E. McNair Scholarship Program - a prestigious four-year, full scholarship to Francis Marion created to encourage public service.
- The Governor Robert E. McNair Research Grants Program - a program that supports FMU faculty research focusing on the human needs of South Carolinians.

Robert Evander McNair

Robert E. McNair served as Governor of South Carolina from 1965 to 1971. He was a progressive pro-education governor with an illustrious background. He served in the U.S. Navy during World War II and was awarded a Bronze Star for his service.

A native of Cades, SC, McNair earned his law degree and founded a successful law practice in Columbia, S.C. Prior to becoming governor, he served in the S.C. House of Representatives and later was elected lieutenant governor.

McNair was elevated to the governor's office in 1965 and was re-elected to the governorship in 1966. While governor, he signed the legislation creating Francis Marion College in 1970.

The University awarded him an honorary doctoral degree in 2005. A classroom building on the FMU campus is also named in his honor.

Application Process

Applications for the McNair Scholarship Program must be received by **December 1**.

Finalists will be invited to interview in January. Awards will be made in January for incoming freshmen enrolling at FMU during the fall semester.

Applicants who are not selected will be considered for other FMU scholarships. Applications and scholarship information are available online at

fmarion.edu/scholarships. Apply online at **fmarion.edu/mcnaircenter**.

Our name says leadership

Francis Marion University is named in honor of South Carolina's Revolutionary War hero, General Francis Marion. Marion was a pioneer in what is now known as "guerrilla warfare." His acumen in that field earned him the nickname "The Swamp Fox" because of his wily use of terrain and local knowledge in his campaign against the British in South Carolina's Pee Dee region – the very area that today is home to the university that bears his name.

Founded in 1970, Francis Marion University is one of thirteen state-supported universities and one of six comprehensive institutions in South Carolina. FMU prides itself on providing a strong liberal arts education for its 4,000 students.

The University offers professional schools in business, education and health sciences, as well as graduate programs in business, education, nursing, physician assistant studies, and psychology. The campus is situated on more than 400 wooded acres and is known as one of the most scenic college campuses in the state.



Beyond the McNair

Francis Marion University offers a range of scholarship opportunities. Qualified applicants who apply, but do not receive, the McNair Scholarship may receive funding from these programs.

The minimum criteria for University scholarships at FMU includes admittance to the University, a score of 1160 or better on the SAT (Evidence-Based Reading & Writing and Math) or 24 ACT Composite, and a high school GPA of 3.0 or higher. All University scholarships, with the exception of the Robert E. McNair Scholarship, Konduros Scholarship, and the Education Fellow Scholarship, are available to both in-state and out-of-state students. Additionally, these scholarships are renewable for up to four years if a student maintains at least a 3.0 GPA and earns 30 credit hours each year. Here's a look at the scholarship opportunities available at FMU:*

The James F. Konduros Scholarship

The Konduros Scholarship awards \$6,000 for tuition and other expenses and, when combined with other state scholarships, it can cover a year's tuition. Selection is based on applications and interviews. Konduros Scholars are accepted into FMU Honors and Leadership FMU, and complete required service and leadership components.

The Education Fellow Scholarship

The \$5,000 scholarship is awarded to prospective Education majors who are part of the South Carolina Teacher Cadet Program. Preference is given to FMU-sponsored Teacher Cadets.

Francis Marion University Fellows Scholars

Fellows receive annual awards of between \$1,500-\$2,500. Scholarship awards are based on applications and interviews.

Distinction Scholarship

All students who meet the minimum criteria for University scholarships will receive an annual Distinction Scholarship award of \$1,000. Students who receive the Distinction Scholarship are encouraged to apply for other University scholarships. If a student is awarded another University scholarship, it will replace the Distinction Scholarship and will not be awarded in addition to it.

Donor-Supported Scholarships

Donors and supporters of Francis Marion University provide funds for more than 150 named, specialty scholarships at FMU. These scholarships are available to all students, although many have specialized qualifying criteria, such as a particular field of study or specific hometown or home county. Awards vary, as do specific qualifications. For more information, visit: www.fmarion.edu/scholarships. The deadline for Donor-Supported Scholarships vary. Contact the Education Foundation at FMU (843-661-1199) for more information.

State Scholarships

Francis Marion takes pride in enrolling more than 1,200 students annually who benefit from South Carolina's Palmetto Fellows, LIFE, HOPE, and Enhancement scholarships, which can provide as much as \$10,000 per year in scholarship assistance. Individual students can work with guidance counselors at their schools to determine their options with regard to state grants, but FMU counselors can assist if needed.

Dates and Process

Scholarship applications for University-awarded Scholarships, excluding the McNair Scholarship, are due by March 15. Awards will be made during the spring, following on-campus interviews. Distinction Scholarships will be awarded automatically after admission.

FIND OUT MORE

Contact the Office of Admissions (843-661-1231) or visit www.fmarion.edu/scholarships for more information on University scholarships.

*Out-of-state students who receive University scholarships also receive an out-of-state tuition waiver valued at more than \$40,000.



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