McNair summary:

The SDSU-McNair Scholars Program proposes to facilitate the success of students from low-income, first generation backgrounds and/or underrepresented in graduate school in Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics (STEM) Education fields. Specifically, we aim to provide the structure and support necessary to help these students 1) complete their undergraduate education in STEM fields with strong research experiences, 2) to have competitive applications to enter graduate STEM programs, and 3) to have the tools and training necessary to persist in their graduate education through the acquisition of their PhD. We will accomplish this by implementing a comprehensive undergraduate research support program that selects students from low-income, first-generation and URM backgrounds with strong potential and motivation for careers in research and places them in active SDSU faculty research labs as research assistants, provides them with appropriate training, educational counseling, and academic assistance. The McNair program will leverage the existing collaborations between SDSU’s academic departments and programs, and student services departments and programs to ensure that these students are on positive trajectories for STEM achievement.

Throughout the academic year, we expect McNair scholars to check in regularly with their mentors, check-in regularly with their EOP counselors, work on independent, supervised research projects in their labs, present their work at the SDS Student Research Symposium once a year, attend tutoring (EOP LRC, Math Center, Writing Center) when needed, attend trainings and workshops hosted by McNair or in partnership with other organizations. During the summer, McNair scholars will earn a stipend to work 30hrs a week in an intensive summer research experience, either at SDSU or at another University.