Marquette University
Educational Opportunity Program
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FAST FACTS

- After its establishment in 1969, EOP quickly gained a national reputation as a model for providing services to help students overcome barriers that traditionally impede access and success in higher education.
- EOP, which comprises four federally funded TRIO programs, motivates and helps low-income and first-generation students obtain a college degree.
- More than 95 percent of our pre-college participants graduate high school in four years, and more than 90 percent of them go on to college.
- Graduates of our pre-college program, collectively and on average, earn more than $1 million in grants, scholarships and tuition reimbursement as undergraduates.
- The Student Support Services program has helped more than 1,800 students earn a Marquette undergraduate degree.
- More than 75 percent of our McNair Scholars enroll in graduate studies.
- Nearly 60 EOP McNair Scholars have completed a Ph.D. or other doctoral-level degree, and more than 120 have earned master’s degrees.

Why Marquette’s Educational Opportunity Program?

The gap in educational attainment between America’s highest- and lowest-income students is wide, despite members of both groups sharing similar talents and potential. Of the very many talented and worthy low-income students, relatively few are represented in higher education — particularly at America’s more selective four-year colleges and universities. Marquette’s EOP programs make college a realistic option for low-income, underrepresented and first-generation students. EOP, which comprises four federally funded TRIO programs, helps more than 500 high school and college students annually attain higher levels of academic achievement, continue their studies, and graduate at rates higher than students from similar backgrounds who do not receive EOP support.

Commitment to educational access and retention

Marquette’s EOP programs are ready to help students — from high school to graduate school — achieve their goals.

FOR HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS
UPWARD BOUND AND UPWARD BOUND MATH-SCIENCE
Annual enrollment: 200 Milwaukee-area first-generation, low-income high school students
Eligible students attend a campus-based, six-week summer program and are provided after-school instruction, tutoring, advising, college/career exploration and enrichment activities during the academic year.

FOR COLLEGE STUDENTS
STUDENT SUPPORT SERVICES
Annual enrollment: 280-320 first-generation, low-income students
This college program offers a network of supportive services, including financial aid assistance, a pre-enrollment summer program, academic counseling, specialized courses, seminars and tutoring. Students also receive personal, educational and career counseling to help them succeed.

MCNAIR SCHOLARS PROGRAM
Annual enrollment: 31 first-generation, low-income students
This program better prepares students for graduate studies by providing a variety of enrichment activities during the academic year, including intensive research internship opportunities. Students also receive assistance with applying to graduate school, writing personal statements, and identifying resources for fellowships and assistantships.
Upward Bound and Upward Bound Math-Science

Marquette’s EOP pre-college division — Upward Bound and Upward Bound Math-Science — supports, guides, and empowers first-generation, low-income young men and women as they strive for successful high school completion, college enrollment and graduation, as well as lay the foundation for life-affirming careers and futures. The programs work with students, parents/guardians, and high school officials to help participants develop the self-confidence and responsibility they need to build a strong foundation for success.

WHAT SERVICES DOES THE PROGRAM PROVIDE?

Participants receive instruction in literature, composition, mathematics and science on Marquette’s campus after school, on Saturdays and during the summer. The Upward Bound program caters to a variety of career interests, while the Upward Bound Math-Science program helps students strengthen their skills for careers in those specific fields. All participants receive:

- tutoring
- academic and personal counseling
- career path development
- college preparatory classes
- a six-week summer program
- college placement assistance
- college tours
- access to Marquette and its facilities

WHO IS ELIGIBLE?

Highly motivated first-generation, low-income students who live in a designated target area or attend a target Milwaukee-area high school are encouraged to apply. Applicants must be successfully completing the eighth grade for the Upward Bound program or ninth grade for the Upward Bound Math-Science program. They must also demonstrate at least one of the following:

- Their parent/guardian income meets the low-income criteria as defined by the U.S. Department of Education at ed.gov/about/offices/list/ope/trio/incomelevels.html.
- Neither parent(s) nor guardian(s) has earned a four-year college degree.

HOW CAN PARENTS/GUARDIANS HELP?

Student success in the program depends on parental/guardian support. By taking an interest in student activities and supporting student efforts, parents/guardians can help their child succeed. At a minimum, we recommend parents/guardians should:

- know their children’s schedule and try not to hold family events that conflict with classes or program activities
- monitor their children’s academic progress by frequently visiting their school and meeting with their teachers and Upward Bound counselors
- schedule study time every day and provide a quiet environment for them to focus
- provide a supporting, nurturing home atmosphere conducive to learning

For more information and an application, visit marquette.edu/eop.

GABRIELLE GRAY, ARTS ’12
Rufus King High School
Milwaukee

EOP programs: Upward Bound, Student Support Services and McNair Scholars

Major: Political Science
Minor: Spanish Language and Literature

“The counseling and support from the staff and other students in Upward Bound helped me prepare for college. Once in the program, I received constant encouragement, which helped me learn how to set goals to help me succeed.”
McNair Scholars

The McNair Scholars program is designed to encourage first-generation, low-income and underrepresented undergraduates to prepare for doctoral study, as well as consider careers in academia. Students who participate in this program are given research opportunities and faculty mentors.

WHAT SERVICES DOES THE PROGRAM PROVIDE?
To better prepare students for graduate studies, all McNair Scholars receive:
- help with applying to graduate schools and writing personal statements
- graduate application fee waivers, reduced GRE fee waivers and funds for campus visits
- help in identifying resources for fellowships and assistantships
- eight-week summer research internship opportunities under the guidance of a Marquette faculty member, which include a research methodology seminar, GRE preparation course and McNair Research Fellowship of up to $2,800
- funding to attend conferences to present research

WHO IS ELIGIBLE?
Students must be low-income and first-generation college students or belong to a group typically underrepresented in graduate education (African-American, Hispanic, American Indian or Alaskan/Pacific Islander). Students must have a grade point average of 2.5 or higher (on a 4.0 scale) and be a U.S. citizen. Sophomores and juniors are strongly encouraged to apply.

For more information and an application, visit marquette.edu/eop/mcnair.
We invite you to contact a member of our staff for more information.

Student Support Services
Phone: 414.288.7593
Fax: 414.288.1769

McNair Scholars
Phone: 414.288.1771
Fax: 414.288.1769

Upward Bound and
Upward Bound Math-Science
Phone: 414.288.7368
Fax: 414.288.5340

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