

## MARC U-STAR SCHOLAR APPLICATION

**DESCRIPTION:** The National Institutes of Health MARC U-STAR (Maximizing Access To Research Careers) Program is aimed at enhancing a student's ability to gain access to a high-caliber graduate program in biomedical and/or behavioral fields at the Ph.D. level. The program provides support for 2 years of the undergraduate program: junior and senior years. Students who are underrepresented in the biomedical and behavioral sciences are especially encouraged to apply.

### BENEFITS:

- An annual student stipend for 2 years (junior and senior years; \$13,600 per year)
- Up to 12 credit hours of IL-resident tuition will be covered for the last 2 years of study at NEIU
- A paid (transportation included) 10-week summer research experience at a research-intensive institution
- Paid travel expenses to present research at a professional conference
- Participation in NEIU research immersion; during the academic year, NEIU offers research training opportunities so the student can be immersed in a research program
- Academic, career and personal support through undergraduate degree completion
- Informational seminars on a variety of graduate school related topics

### REQUIREMENTS (to be completed by the end of the MARC Training Program):

- A research project with an NEIU faculty mentor
- A thesis must be written and approved based on the research conducted
- Presentations of research at: (1) the NEIU Research Symposium in Spring, (2) the SCSE Research Symposium in Fall, and (3) a National Conference
- Completion of Mathematical and Statistical Modeling Minor
- Commitment to complete a PhD program in biomedical and/or behavioral fields

### ELIGIBILITY:

Applicants must:

- be undergraduate students and declared majors at NEIU in Biology, Chemistry, Computer Science, Mathematics, Physics, or Psychology with sophomore or junior status at the time of application submission. Freshman or senior students are not eligible.
- have completed the majority of the curriculum for the first two years of the specified curriculum in the appendix provided
- have a minimum of a cumulative GPA of 3.0
- have status as the first-generation college student with income eligibility and/or member of a group underrepresented in graduate education
- be US citizens or permanent residents
- have career goals to earn a doctoral degree in biomedical and/or behavioral research

### Applicants must submit all of the following documents:

- This completed and signed application form
- A letter of reference from an NEIU faculty member in your major field of study
- Current unofficial transcript(s)

**HOW TO APPLY:** Interested students can submit their application materials on our website: [www.neiu.edu/marc](http://www.neiu.edu/marc). Selected students will be invited for an in-person interview. Please address general questions to [marc@neiu.edu](mailto:marc@neiu.edu). You may also contact one of the MARC Program Directors: Dr. Emina A. Stojković ([e-stojkovic@neiu.edu](mailto:e-stojkovic@neiu.edu)), Dept. of Biology, Dr. Ruth B. Church ([rbchurch@neiu.edu](mailto:rbchurch@neiu.edu)), Dept. of Psychology, and Dr. Joseph E. Hibdon Jr. ([j-hibdonjr@neiu.edu](mailto:j-hibdonjr@neiu.edu)), Dept. of Mathematics.

**Application Deadline: as announced on the [MARC website](http://www.neiu.edu/marc)**

Name:		NEIU ID#:	
Current address:			
N-mail address:		Phone number:	
Emergency contact:		Emergency contact number:	
Declared major:	Declared minor: (if applicable)		Current GPA
Credit hours completed by the end of Spring semester:		Classification: <input type="checkbox"/> FR <input type="checkbox"/> SOPH <input type="checkbox"/> JR <input type="checkbox"/> SR	

### RACE/ETHNICITY and FAMILY EDUCATIONAL BACKGROUND

Please check one or more.

- White     
 African American     
 American Indian or Alaskan Native     
 Asian     
 Native Hawaiian or Pacific Islander
- Hispanic or Latino/Latina (Cuban, Mexican, Puerto Rican, Central or South American, or other Spanish culture or origin regardless of race)

Are you the first generation in your immediate family to go to college?       Yes       No

### Which groups do you belong to or plan to belong to?

Please check all that apply.

- McNair     
 Honors     
 SCSE     
 ChicagoCHEC

### Citizenship and Residence Information

Please check all that apply.

- US Citizen     
 Permanent Resident     
 Illinois Resident

### Media Consent and Certification Statement

#### Media Release

I grant consent to the use of my photograph(s), full name, major(s)/minor(s), research project description, conference presentations and awards, research publications, as well as graduation date from NEIU and professional status after graduation, in promotional materials of the program, NEIU MARC website, research group page, or other media for the MARC U-STAR Program.

Yes       No

#### Certification

I understand that withholding information requested on this application or giving false information may make me ineligible for assistance or subject to dismissal from the program. I certify that the information provided on the application is correct and complete.

Yes       No

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_



3. How will this training program enhance achievement of your professional goals (150-200 words)?

## MARC TRAINEE CURRICULUM

Year	Fall		Spring	
	Course	Units	Course	Units
Year 1	BIO 201	4	BIO 202	4
	CHEM 211	5	CHEM 212	4
	MATH 187 – Calculus I	4	MATH 202 – Calculus II	4
	BIO 150	2	First Year Experience	3
Year 2	BIO 301 - Cell Biology	4	BIO 305 - Ecology	4
	CHEM 231 -Organic I	4	CHEM 232 - Organic II	4
	ENGL 101	3	PHYS 206	4
	MATH 275 – Applied and Computational Statistics	3	MATH 370 – Modeling in Natural Sciences	4
<b>Intramural Summer Research Training Experience</b>				
Year 3	BIO 303 - Genetics	4	BIO 340 - Molecular BIO	4
	BIO 362 - Biochemistry	4	Research Skills II	3
	Research Skills I	3	General Education	9
	Physics 207	4		
<b>MARC Extramural Summer Research Training Experience</b>				
Year 4	MATH 374 – Modeling & Simulation in Complex Systems	4	Upper level math modeling course	3
	Honors Thesis Prep	3	Honors Thesis Presentation	3
	General Education	9	General Education	9