Title: Graduate Application Fee Waivers for URM Students

Responsible Unit: Graduate Admissions

This initiative will provide up to 100 graduate application fee waivers to undergraduate students who participate in McNair Scholars, GEM, LSAMP, SEEK, CSTEP, TRiO, EOP or HEOP programs or other URM programs as identified by Graduate Admissions.

We will encourage applications from students who might not otherwise have the means to pay the application fee. Students from these programs have participated in structured activities and experiences that prepare them for success in graduate school. Selection as a McNair Scholar, for example, is the result of a competitive process and students receive intense research experience with faculty mentors. Competition for these students is particularly tough and many of our peers offer application fee waivers as incentives. Feedback from Directors of McNair programs suggest that their students mostly apply only to schools that provide fee waivers.

We expect to see a significant increase in the applications from students in these programs as a result of the waivers. Additionally, we will work closely with these applicants through outreach and our CRM system to turn them into enrolled graduate students.