

**Writing the Personal Statement**  
**McNair Graduate Opportunity Program**  
**Indiana State University**

The personal statement must be typed on a separate sheet of paper and included as the first pages of your application. The essay should be no longer than two double-spaced pages. One page is likely too short to respond fully to the issues below. Please indicate what you hope to accomplish through the participation in this program by responding to the following:

- Describe your intellectual interests.
- What do you see yourself doing in 10 years professionally?
- Discuss your plans for graduate study.
- What are three qualities a McNair Scholar should possess before entry into the program? Do you possess them? If so, describe how you have demonstrated such qualities.
- What are some challenges you have overcome or are working to overcome?
- How do you see the McNair program benefiting you? What are the benefits of the program?

For your benefit, you may choose to use the following electronic resources as you write the essay. You may use, however, any resource you find useful.

Writing the Personal Essay Resources:

[http://www.wisc.edu/writing/Handbook/apessay\\_overview.html](http://www.wisc.edu/writing/Handbook/apessay_overview.html)

<http://owl.english.purdue.edu/owl/resource/642/01/>