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## **SECRETARY DUNCAN AWARDS \$6.3 MILLION TO COLLEGES AND UNIVERSITIES TO STRENGTHEN MINORITY PARTICIPATION IN STEM-RELATED EMPLOYMENT**

U.S. Secretary of Education Arne Duncan announced today that 32 colleges and universities have been awarded \$6.3 million in grants to help underrepresented students earn doctoral degrees, strengthen science and engineering education, and better prepare students for careers in science and technology.

The grants were made under the Department's Ronald E. McNair Post-baccalaureate Achievement Program (\$3.5 million) and the Minority Science and Engineering Improvement Program (MSEIP, \$2.8 million). Each program made 16 awards.

"These grants support higher level math and science instruction and prepare minority students for careers where their skills will be in high demand," Duncan said.

The McNair program prepares students for doctoral studies through involvement in research and other scholarly activities. Participants are from disadvantaged backgrounds and have demonstrated strong academic potential. Institutions work closely with them as they complete their undergraduate requirements, and encourage them to enroll in graduate programs and then track their progress through to the successful completion of advanced degrees. These four-year grants will service 400 students in a range of projects that may include academic counseling, financial aid, mentoring, tutoring, research opportunities, summer internships and seminars. More information on the McNair program is available at <http://www.ed.gov/programs/triomcnair/index.html>.

The MSEIP supports the administration's efforts to increase America's technological and economic competitiveness by improving and expanding its scientific and technological capacity. Three-year grants are awarded to help enhance science and engineering education at predominately minority institutions and to increase the flow of underrepresented ethnic minorities, especially women, into scientific and technological careers. MSEIP supports K-12 programs, tutoring for K-12 and college students, faculty and curriculum development, renovation of labs and classrooms, stipends for program participants, and a wide range of activities designed to increase minority graduates in science, technology, engineering and math fields.

More information on MSEIP is available at: <http://www.ed.gov/programs/idesmsi/index.html>.

\*\*Lists of FY 2009 grantees follow:

### **RONALD E. McNAIR POSTBACCALAUREATE ACHIEVEMENT PROGRAM GRANTS**

Bloomfield College (Texas)	\$220,000
Texas A&M University	\$220,000
University of Hawaii (Honolulu)	\$220,000
University of Wisconsin (La Crosse)	\$219,964
Winthrop University (S.C.)	\$220,000
Earlham College (Ind.)	\$219,647
Heritage University (Wash.)	\$219,429
University of Wisconsin (Stout)	\$220,000
California State University (Northridge)	\$219,998
Murray State University (Ky.)	\$225,000
Arkansas State University	\$219,984
Montana State University	\$219,737
University of North Carolina (Chapel Hill)	\$215,597
Fayetteville State University (N.C.)	\$220,000
College of Charleston (S.C.)	\$220,000
Northern Michigan University (Mich.)	\$220,000

#### **MINORITY SCIENCE AND ENGINEERING IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM**

Charles Drew University of Medicine and Science (Los Angeles)	\$185,450
Florida A&M University (Tallahassee)	\$197,975
Miami-Dade College-North Campus (Miami)	\$279,881
East-West University (Chicago)	\$199,477
Jackson State University (Miss.)	\$197,232
Fort Belknap College (Harlem, Mont.)	\$143,799
Stone Child College (Box Elder, Mont.)	\$ 97,347
North Carolina A&T (Greensboro)	\$189,818
Winston-Salem State University (N.C.)	\$ 96,907
Inter American University of Puerto Rico – Bayaman Campus (San Juan)	\$166,298
Universidad del Turabo (Garubo, Puerto Rico)	\$185,519
Allen University (Columbia, S.C.)	\$199,691
Laredo Community College (Texas)	\$200,000
Prairie View A&M University (Texas)	\$149,220
The University of Texas at San Antonio	\$182,093
Northwest India College (Bellingham, Wash.)	\$151,549

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