



PRESS RELEASE

NBCC Foundation

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Erica Nicole Rankin Awarded \$11,000 Counseling Fellowship From NBCC and Affiliates

Charlotte, NC—The NBCC Foundation, an affiliate of the National Board for Certified Counselors (NBCC), recently selected Erica Nicole Rankin, of Charlotte, North Carolina, for the NBCC Minority Fellowship Program-Addictions Counselors (MFP-AC). As an NBCC MFP-AC fellow, Rankin will receive funding and training to support her education and facilitate her addictions counseling service to underserved minority transition-age youth (ages 16–25).



The NBCC MFP-AC is made possible by a grant awarded to NBCC by the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) in September 2014. The Foundation is contracted by NBCC to administer the NBCC MFP-AC, as well as training and collaboration activities, such as [webinars](#), that are open to all National Certified Counselors (NCCs). The goal of the program is to reduce health disparities and improve behavioral health care outcomes for racially and ethnically diverse populations by increasing the available number of culturally competent behavioral health professionals.

The NBCC MFP will distribute up to \$11,000 to Rankin and the 29 other master’s-level addictions counseling students selected to receive the fellowship award. Rankin is both a student and graduate of The University of North Carolina at Charlotte (UNC Charlotte), where she is pursuing a master’s degree in the counseling program with a specialization in addictions counseling. After graduation, she plans to work with families, underserved minorities and those with co-occurring mental and substance use disorders. Rankin serves as the fundraising and community service chair for Mu Tau Beta, the counseling honor society at UNC Charlotte. Earning this fellowship will allow Rankin to attend counseling conferences and substance abuse training and to establish a stronger professional identity as a counselor. Additionally, she hopes to continue studying ways to better serve underserved populations and advocate for the counseling profession.

The Foundation plans to open the next NBCC MFP-AC application period in September 2016. To learn more about the NBCC MFP and its fellows, please visit www.nbccf.org.

ABOUT THE NBCC FOUNDATION

The NBCC Foundation is the nonprofit affiliate of the National Board for Certified Counselors (NBCC), based in Greensboro, North Carolina. NBCC is the nation’s premier professional certification board devoted to credentialing counselors who meet standards for the general and specialty practices of professional counseling. Currently, there are more than 60,000 National Certified Counselors in the United States and more than 50 countries. The Foundation’s mission is to leverage the power of counseling by strategically focusing resources for positive change.

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