



PRESS RELEASE

NBCC Foundation
3 Terrace Way
Greensboro, NC 27403-3660
Phone: 336-232-0376
www.nbccf.org

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
May 10, 2016

Katrina Y. Billingsley Awarded \$20,000 Counseling Fellowship From NBCC and Affiliates

Apex, NC—The NBCC Foundation, an affiliate of the National Board for Certified Counselors (NBCC), recently selected Katrina Y. Billingsley, of Apex, North Carolina, for the National Board for Certified Counselors Minority Fellowship Program (NBCC MFP). As an NBCC MFP Fellow, Billingsley will receive funding and training to support her education and facilitate her service to underserved minority populations.



The NBCC MFP is made possible by a grant first awarded to NBCC by the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) in August 2012. The Foundation is contracted by NBCC to administer the NBCC MFP, 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 strengthen the infrastructure that engages diverse individuals in counseling and increases the number of professional counselors providing effective, culturally competent services to underserved populations.

The NBCC MFP will distribute \$20,000 to Billingsley and the 22 other doctoral counseling students selected to receive the fellowship award. Billingsley is a graduate of The University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill and of North Carolina Central University, in Durham, and is currently a doctoral student in the counseling and counselor education at North Carolina State University, in Raleigh. Billingsley is interested in researching the concept of Black romantic love by studying diverse African-American love relationships from a strengths-based approach. It is her desire to understand and improve love relationships in African-American communities. During her doctoral pursuits, Billingsley has worked with underserved minority populations in community mental health and desires to find ways to make quality mental health care more accessible to this population. This fellowship will assist Billingsley in becoming more involved in professional organizations and receiving additional training that will assist in serving underserved minority populations.

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

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.

###