

PRESS RELEASE

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



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Darnella Williams-Hankins Receives Military Scholarship From the NBCC Foundation



West Palm Beach, FL—The NBCC Foundation, an affiliate of the National Board for Certified Counselors, Inc. (NBCC), recently awarded a \$8,000 2017 NBCC Foundation military scholarship to Darnella Williams-Hankins, of West Palm Beach, Florida. The military scholarship is awarded to service members, veterans and their spouses who are pursuing a counseling education and commit to serving fellow military personnel, veterans and families upon graduation.

The mission of the NBCC Foundation is to leverage the power of counseling by strategically focusing resources for positive change. The military scholarship was created in 2009 to increase access to counselors for military personnel, veterans and families suffering from a shortage of available mental health professionals. Nearly 40 students from across the country applied for the six 2017 military scholarships.

As a military scholarship recipient, Williams-Hankins will receive \$8,000 to support her counseling education and recognize her commitment to the underserved. A graduate of Northern Arizona University, in Flagstaff, Williams-Hankins is currently a master's student in the mental health counseling program at South University, in West Palm Beach, Florida. After graduation, Williams-Hankins intends to use her education and training by focusing on the veteran population, particularly military members who need support after joining and processing out of the service and members who have experienced post-traumatic stress and loss of limbs, and providing support for their family members. She would also like to utilize sex therapy with military couples who have relationship complications due to long deployments and members who have experienced sexual abuse. This scholarship will allow Williams-Hankins to earn both certifications in EMDR and sex therapy while developing a stronger professional identity as a clinical mental health counselor.

The NBCC Foundation has also awarded five \$8,000 [rural scholarships](#) to increase the number of counselors serving rural areas. The Foundation plans to continue offering scholarships to increase the number of counselors in the areas where they are needed most and will open the next application period in September 2017. For more information or to make a gift to support scholars like these, 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 (NCCs) 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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