## PRESS RELEASE

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## Jennifer J. Blount Receives Military Scholarship From the NBCC Foundation



Hinesville, GA—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 Jennifer J. Blount, of Hinesville, Georgia. 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, Blount will receive \$8,000 to support her counseling education and recognize her commitment to the underserved. A graduate of New Mexico State University, in Las Cruces, Blount is currently a master's student in the clinical mental health counseling program at Colorado Christian University, in Lakewood. Upon graduation, Blount intends to work with military families, particularly soldiers who have served in combat, as well as spouses and children who have experienced hardships due to military lifestyle. Additionally, Blount would like to work with veterans who are suffering from PTSD. Earning this scholarship will provide Blount with additional resources to establish her professional identity as a counselor, learn evidence-based practices in treating trauma and PTSD, and advocate for the mental health needs of men, women and families serving in the military.

The NBCC Foundation has also awarded five \$8,000 <u>rural scholarships</u> 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 <u>www.nbccf.org</u>.

## 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.