

PRESS RELEASE

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Rasley Micaela Easley Awarded \$11,000 Counseling Fellowship From NBCC and Affiliates



Cedar Park, TX—The NBCC Foundation, an affiliate of the National Board for Certified Counselors (NBCC), recently selected Rasley Micaela Easley, of Cedar Park, Texas, for the NBCC Minority Fellowship Program-Addictions Counselors (MFP-AC). As an NBCC MFP-AC Fellow, Easley 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 Easley and the 33 other master’s-level addictions counseling students selected to receive the fellowship award. Easley is a graduate of Baylor University, in Waco, Texas, and is currently a master’s student in the clinical mental health counseling program at Texas State University, in San Marcos. Upon graduation, Easley intends to work with transition-age minority youth, particularly those who are struggling with addiction or are the children of parents dealing with addictions. She would also like to work with people who are often marginalized, such as ethnic minorities and women and children from low income families, for whom mental health services are not available or sought out. Earning this fellowship will allow Easley to complete her coursework to establish a stronger background and education in working with substance abuse/addiction. Easley will also use this fellowship as an opportunity to attend counseling conferences to better build a foundation and identity as a counselor and to cultivate skills to best serve underserved populations while advocating for services and knowledge within the profession. With this fellowship, Easley hopes to advocate for future clients and also the counseling profession.

The NBCC Foundation has also awarded 23 \$20,000 [doctoral fellowships](#) through the Minority Fellowship Program and 30 \$8,000 master’s-level fellowships through the [MFP-Youth](#) (MFP-Y). The Foundation plans to open the next NBCC MFP-AC application period in fall 2018. To learn more about the NBCC MFP and its fellows, please visit <http://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 64,000 board-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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