

## PRESS RELEASE

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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### Tom Riley Receives Military Scholarship From the NBCC Foundation



Wilson, NC—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 Tom Riley, of Wilson, North Carolina. 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, Riley will receive \$8,000 to support his counseling education and recognize his commitment to the underserved. A graduate of Samford University, in Birmingham, Alabama, and of The Divinity School at Duke University, in Durham, North Carolina, Riley is currently a master's student in the mental health counseling program at North Carolina Central University, in Durham. Upon graduation, Riley hopes to work with veterans of all ages, particularly those with post-traumatic stress disorders and/or substance use disorders. He is also interested in helping civilian organizations understand the needs of veterans. Earning this scholarship will allow Riley to learn more about challenges veterans have reintegrating after deployment and tools to help them be more resilient.

The NBCC Foundation has also awarded five \$8,000 [rural scholarships](http://www.nbccf.org) 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](http://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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