



SCHOLARSHIP AND FELLOWSHIP FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

GENERAL QUESTIONS

1. Is there a paper application?

No, the application is only available online. Please attach all supporting documentation to your online application—do not mail or email any required documents. Your application will not be considered complete without all required documents.

2. What happens if my application is not complete?

It is the applicant's responsibility to submit a complete application. Incomplete applications will not be considered.

3. Can I submit my application after the deadline date?

Applications must be submitted by the deadline. You will be unable to submit an application once the deadline has passed and the application period closes.

4. Does my application need to be completed in English?

The application and all supporting documents must be in English.

5. If something in my application changes after I submit my application, what should I do?

Please email us immediately at foundation@nbcc.org if any aspect of your application changes.

6. I receive funds from a work-study program through my university. Would this make me ineligible for the scholarship/fellowship?

No. Federally sponsored work-study programs do not adversely affect an applicant's eligibility for MFP funds because the university is the actual employer. Only applicants who are employed by a federal agency or who receive other federal funds are considered ineligible.

7. In order for me to qualify for the award, what kind of academic accreditation does my university need?

Applicants for all MFP fellowships, military scholarships, or rural scholarships must be enrolled in a CACREP-accredited counseling program. Students applying for the MFP for Addictions Counselors (Master's) can be enrolled in a regionally accredited or NASAC-accredited master's counseling program in lieu of a CACREP-accredited program.

8. How can I find out if my counseling program is CACREP accredited?

You can identify CACREP-accredited programs at cacrep.org/directory. Programs in the process of becoming CACREP accredited can be found at cacrep.org/programs-in-process. Applicants in such programs will be considered on a case-by-case basis.

9. Do I have to be enrolled full time in my academic program to be eligible?

Master's-level applicants can be enrolled part time or full time in their academic program. Doctoral-level applicants must be enrolled full time in their academic program. Programs are considered full time based on what the university or program considers full time.

10. I am enrolled in a school counseling program. Am I eligible to apply for a scholarship or fellowship?

Yes, applicants may be enrolled in a school counseling program, as long as the program is CACREP accredited.



11. Are students in other programs of study, such as social work, eligible for NBCC scholarships and fellowships?

No. NBCC Foundation scholarships and fellowships are only awarded to counseling students. For a list of the organizations that administer the MFP for students in other disciplines such as social work, psychology, nursing, psychiatry, or marriage and family therapy, click here: www.samhsa.gov/minority-fellowship-program/become-mfp-fellow#grantee-organizations

12. I already have an advanced degree. Can I apply for a scholarship or fellowship for another degree at the same level, e.g. a second master's degree or a second doctoral degree?

No. Applicants are ineligible if they have already earned any advanced degree at the same level.

13. I was just accepted into my program, but I will not begin classes until January 2019. Can I still apply for the scholarship or fellowship?

No, applicants must have taken courses during the fall 2018 semester. This means they may not have a pending or deferred status, or other future start date for their coursework.

14. Can I submit a copy of my transcript as my current academic documentation?

No. The fall 2018 class schedule is the only document that will be accepted as verification of your current academic status.

15. Are funds given directly to scholarship/fellowship recipients or to their institutions?

Scholarship/fellowship funds are given directly to recipients, who are responsible for any tax implications.

16. What if I receive the scholarship/fellowship and am unable to fulfill my commitments?

Scholarships and fellowships are awarded with the expectation that all commitments will be met. The NBCC Foundation Staff, Advisory Council, and/or Board of Trustees will determine repayment requirements on a case-by-case basis.

17. Where can I find the Letter of Good Standing?

A link to the acceptable document is provided in the application. Please note that a letter written by your program coordinator or department chair is not an acceptable document. Electronic or digital signatures will **not** be accepted.

18. Can I apply for more than one scholarship/fellowship?

Yes, but you can only be awarded one at a time.

19. Am I required to be board certified by gaining the National Certified Counselor (NCC) credential prior to the end of the scholarship/fellowship year?

Master's-level applicants must apply for the NCC certification prior to graduation from their master's degree program and must commit to completing the certification process after graduation. Doctoral-level applicants must currently be board certified by holding the National Certified Counselor (NCC) credential. If the applicant is not currently board certified, they must document all of the following:

1. A full state license as a professional counselor.
2. A passing score on the National Counselor Examination for Licensure and Certification (NCE) or the National Clinical Mental Health Counseling Examination (NCMHCE).
3. A commitment to apply for the NCC credential and to complete the application within the shortest possible timeframe after notification of the MFP award.

20. When must the two-year commitment of service be met?

The two-year commitment to the target population begins as soon as you gain employment in the field after graduation. If the scholar/fellow returns to school for a different degree or postdoctoral training and is actively accepted into an educational program, the commitment timeframe would be extended until after graduation from that program.

21. Would postdoctoral training qualify for the required two-year commitment of service?

No, it would not qualify as time toward the commitment.

ADDITIONAL QUESTIONS

*Questions specific to certain scholarships/fellowships only. Not all scholarships/fellowships will have additional questions.

MFP for Mental Health Counselors (Doctoral)

1. I do not hold the National Certified Counselor (NCC) certification. Am I still eligible for the fellowship?

Applicants can still be eligible if they hold a full state license as a professional counselor, have a passing score on the National Counselor Examination for Licensure and Certification (NCE) or the National Clinical Mental Health Counseling Examination (NCMHCE), and commit to apply for the NCC upon award and to complete the application process within the shortest possible timeframe.

2. How do I know if I would be eligible to become board certified by obtaining the National Certified Counselor (NCC) credential?

Requirements of the NCC certification can be found on NBCC's website at www.nbcc.org/Certification/NCC. It is up to the applicant to verify their eligibility for the NCC certification prior to applying.

MFP for Addictions Counselors (Master's)

1. How can I find out if my counseling program is NASAC accredited?

You can identify NASAC-accredited programs at nasacaccreditation.org.

Rural Scholarship

1. What qualifies as "documentation of residence in a rural area"?

A copy of a driver's license, bill, or other statement from a third-party organization that shows an applicant's address in an area designated as rural by the [Health Resources and Services Administration \(HRSA\)](http://HealthResourcesandServicesAdministration(HRSA)).

2. HRSA defines rural areas by both address and county. Do either of these determinations qualify for the rural residence requirement?

Yes, an applicant's address can be defined as rural by county or physical address.

3. I have two addresses—a school address and a permanent address. Only one of these is in a HRSA-defined rural area. Am I still eligible?

Yes, if an applicant has both a school and a permanent address, and one is in a HRSA-defined rural area, the applicant may claim either address for the residence in a rural area requirement. Documentation of residence at either address is required.

Military Scholarship

1. I am a military spouse. Am I eligible to apply for the military scholarship?

Yes, spouses of active-duty service members or veterans are eligible to apply. They must be able to provide documentation of their marriage certificate along with a copy of their DEERS ID card, their spouse's DD Form 214, or their spouse's [Servicemembers Civil Relief Act certificate](#).

2. Is there a restriction on how recent the military service must be?

No, all veterans or spouses of veterans, regardless of service years, are eligible.

3. I am a military family member that is not a spouse of a current active-duty service member or veteran. Am I eligible to apply for the military scholarship?

No, only active-duty service members, veterans, or spouses of active-duty service members or veterans are eligible to apply.

4. What serves as "documentation of current or prior military service"?

The [Servicemembers Civil Relief Act certificate](#) or the DD Form 214 are the preferred forms of documentation, but others may be accepted on a case-by-case basis. Please note that spouses must provide additional documentation notated in the application.