

## PRESS RELEASE

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

April 25, 2017

### **Amy L. Hopkinson Awarded \$11,000 Counseling Fellowship From NBCC and Affiliates**



Colorado Springs, CO—The NBCC Foundation, an affiliate of the National Board for Certified Counselors (NBCC), recently selected Amy L. Hopkinson, of Colorado Springs, Colorado, for the NBCC Minority Fellowship Program-Addictions Counselors (MFP-AC). As an NBCC MFP-AC fellow, Hopkinson 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 Hopkinson and the 30 other master's-level addictions counseling students selected to receive the fellowship award. Hopkinson is a graduate of The University of Tampa, in Florida, and is currently a master's student in the clinical mental health counseling program at the University of Colorado Colorado Springs. Upon graduation, Hopkinson intends to work with transition-age minority youth, particularly those who struggle with substance abuse. She would also like to work with youth specifically in the school systems as she feels this is an area where mental health services are lacking. This fellowship will allow Hopkinson to attend counseling conferences that will provide her with the resources and a developed network base to help her better serve her intended populations. This fellowship will also be her support to effectively advocate for not only underserved populations, but also the counseling profession itself.

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 Minority Fellowship Program application period in September 2017. To learn more about the NBCC MFP and its fellows, please visit [www.nbccf.org/programs/scholarships](http://www.nbccf.org/programs/scholarships).

#### 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 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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