

## PRESS RELEASE

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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### Destiny De La Rosa Awarded \$11,000 Counseling Fellowship From NBCC and Affiliates



Elizabeth, NJ—The NBCC Foundation, an affiliate of the National Board for Certified Counselors (NBCC), recently selected Destiny De La Rosa, of Elizabeth, New Jersey, for the NBCC Minority Fellowship Program-Addictions Counselors (MFP-AC). As an NBCC MFP-AC fellow, De La Rosa 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 De La Rosa and the 30 other master's-level addictions counseling students selected to receive the fellowship award. De La Rosa is both a student and graduate of The College of New Jersey, in Ewing, where she is currently pursuing a master's degree in the school counseling program with a student assistance coordinator certificate. Upon graduation, De La Rosa plans to work with at-risk high school students to help them along their path to postsecondary education. She plans to continue her research working with traditionally underrepresented STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math) students and answering the question of why students struggle to persist in STEM majors. This research will help change the framework that currently exists to a more inclusive model with the goal of increasing the number of underrepresented students who earn a STEM degree. This fellowship will allow De La Rosa to network with other counselors, have new experiences, and grow and develop not only as a person, but as a counselor as well.

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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