

PRESS RELEASE

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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Illyana Tallo Awarded \$11,000 Counseling Fellowship From NBCC and Affiliates



Myrtle Beach, SC—The NBCC Foundation, an affiliate of the National Board for Certified Counselors (NBCC), recently selected Illyana Tallo, of Myrtle Beach, South Carolina, for the NBCC Minority Fellowship Program-Addictions Counselors (MFP-AC). As an NBCC MFP-AC fellow, Tallo 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 Tallo and the 17 other master's-level addictions counseling students selected to receive the fellowship award. Tallo is a graduate of St. John Fisher College, in Rochester, New York, and is currently a master's student in the clinical mental health counseling program at Webster University, in Myrtle Beach, South Carolina. Upon graduation, Tallo plans to work with adolescents who have substance abuse issues and who may also have various other mental health problems. She plans to work with those who are marginalized, particularly those who are unable to afford treatment. Earning this fellowship will allow her to serve this underprivileged population. Tallo's life lessons and personal experiences have taught her to have compassion and empathy, and this has given her the desire to serve this segment of the population. She plans to be a strong advocate for those who continue to struggle with substance abuse.

The NBCC Foundation has also awarded 23 \$20,000 [doctoral fellowships](#) through the Minority Fellowship Program, 30 \$8,000 master's-level fellowships through the [MFP-Youth](#) (MFP-Y) program, and 31 additional [MFP-AC](#) fellowships this year. The Foundation will 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.

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 63,000 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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