

**PRESS RELEASE**

NBCC Foundation  
3 Terrace Way  
Greensboro, NC 27403-3660  
Phone: 336-232-0376  
www.nbccf.org



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
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**Khalaja J. Dunlap Awarded \$11,000 Counseling Fellowship From NBCC and Affiliates**

Durham, NC—The NBCC Foundation, an affiliate of the National Board for Certified Counselors (NBCC), recently selected Khalaja J. Dunlap, of Durham, North Carolina, for the NBCC Minority Fellowship Program-Addictions Counselors (MFP-AC). As an NBCC MFP-AC fellow, Dunlap 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 Dunlap and the 17 other master’s-level addictions counseling students selected to receive the fellowship award. Dunlap is a graduate of The University of North Carolina at Greensboro, and is currently a master’s student in the social work program at North Carolina Central University, in Durham. Upon graduation, Dunlap plans to start her career working with youth and young adults at an outpatient treatment facility. She would like to work with individuals who are looking to overcome drug and alcohol addiction by helping them along their journey to recovery. Mental and behavioral health has always been an avenue of interest for Dunlap. Upon receiving her licensure for the LCSW, she plans to open her own clinical practice–outpatient treatment facility that will advocate for minorities while also helping this population to receive the proper addiction and mental health resources.

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](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 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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