



PRESS RELEASE

NBCC Foundation

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Linwood Webster Awarded \$8,000 Counseling Fellowship From NBCC and Affiliates

Durham, NC—The NBCC Foundation, an affiliate of the National Board for Certified Counselors (NBCC), recently selected Linwood Webster of Durham, North Carolina, for the NBCC Minority Fellowship Program-Youth (MFP-Y). As an NBCC MFP-Y fellow, Webster will receive funding and training to support his education and facilitate his service to underserved minority populations, with a specific focus on transition-age youth (ages 16–25).



The NBCC MFP-Y 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-Y, 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 number of available culturally competent behavioral health professionals.

The NBCC MFP will distribute \$8,000 education awards to Webster and the 30 other master's-level counseling students selected to receive the fellowship award. Webster is a graduate of North Carolina Central University, in Durham, and of The University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill and is currently pursuing a master's degree in the clinical mental health counseling program at North Carolina State University, in Raleigh. Upon graduation, Webster intends to provide mental health counseling services to racially and ethnically diverse transition-age youth (ages 16–25). He would also like to work with people and populations who are often marginalized, such as ethnic minorities and people living in rural areas, where mental health services are typically lacking. This fellowship will allow Webster to extend his research on the school-to-prison pipeline, which he began while completing the Harvard University Administrative Fellowship Program between 2002 and 2003. Receipt of this fellowship will help with his goal of outreach and education to racially and ethnically diverse communities about mental health, and removing the stigma surrounding help-seeking for mental health questions and concerns. The fellowship will allow Webster to attend counseling conferences to establish a stronger professional identity as a clinical mental health counselor, learn evidence-based practices to better serve underserved populations, and advocate for the counseling profession.

The Foundation plans to open the next NBCC MFP-Y application period in September 2016. To learn more about the NBCC MFP and its fellows, please visit www.nbccf.org.

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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