

PRESS RELEASE

NBCC Foundation

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Paula Franklin Awarded \$20,000 Counseling Fellowship From NBCC and Affiliates

University Park, IL—The NBCC Foundation, an affiliate of the National Board for Certified Counselors (NBCC), recently selected Paula Franklin, of Park Forest, Illinois, for the National Board for Certified Counselors Minority Fellowship Program (NBCC MFP). As an NBCC MFP Fellow, Franklin will receive funding and training to support her education and facilitate her service to underserved minority populations.



The NBCC MFP is made possible by a grant first awarded to NBCC by the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) in August 2012. The Foundation is contracted by NBCC to administer the NBCC MFP, 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 strengthen the infrastructure that engages diverse individuals in counseling and increases the number of professional counselors providing effective, culturally competent services to underserved populations.

The NBCC MFP will distribute \$20,000 to Franklin and the 22 other doctoral counseling students selected to receive the fellowship award. Franklin is a graduate of the University of South Alabama in Mobile and is both a student and graduate of Governors State University in University Park, Illinois, where she is currently pursuing a doctoral degree in counselor education and supervision. She has counseled minority youth and families for over nine years and her research is focused on qualitatively analyzing resiliency as it relates to African-American youth. She chose to explore the motivations of adolescents who function in the absence of a primary support system. Youth who face difficult challenges either rise above or fall victim to their circumstances, and Franklin intends to identify the internal factors that contribute to adolescent resilience. Research will inform counselor educators and clinical practitioners of interventions for adolescents when family counseling is not a viable option. This fellowship will assist with her goals of expanding her research and collaborating with peers and mentors who share similar research interests.

The Foundation plans to open the next NBCC MFP application period in September 2015. 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 55,000 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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