



PRESS RELEASE

NBCC Foundation

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Regina Gavin Williams Awarded \$20,000 Counseling Fellowship From NBCC and Affiliates

Raleigh, NC—The NBCC Foundation, an affiliate of the National Board for Certified Counselors (NBCC), recently selected Regina Gavin Williams, of Raleigh, North Carolina, for the National Board for Certified Counselors Minority Fellowship Program (NBCC MFP). As an NBCC MFP Fellow, Williams 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 Williams and the 22 other doctoral counseling students selected to receive the fellowship award. Williams is a graduate of The University of Georgia, in Athens, and of Valdosta State University, in Georgia, and is currently a doctoral student in the counseling and counselor education program at North Carolina State University, in Raleigh. Williams' research interests include assisting adolescents aging out of the foster care system to become successful and self-sufficient adults. Williams is the creator of Students That Are Reaching Success (S.T.A.R.S.), a skill-building and primary prevention program for adolescents aging out of the foster care system. Recently, she received a grant from the North Carolina Career Development Association to engage in research for S.T.A.R.S. Williams has experience as a licensed clinician for children, adolescents and adults, as a transitional living specialist primarily for adolescents aging out of foster care, and as a higher education professional. As an NBCC MFP fellow, she plans to continue her advocacy efforts on behalf of adolescents in the foster care system. She also desires to develop and create training programs for therapeutic foster caregivers on how to best serve the mental health needs of children and adolescents in foster care. She will also continue to engage in scholarly research related to the implications of counseling children and adolescents involved in the foster care system.

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

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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