

PRESS RELEASE

NBCC Foundation
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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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NBCC Foundation Awards 20 Doctoral Counseling Fellowships

Greensboro, NC – The NBCC Foundation is pleased to announce the 2020 fellowship recipients for the National Board for Certified Counselors Minority Fellowship Program for Doctoral Counselors (NBCC MFP).

The goals of the program are to strengthen the infrastructure that engages diverse individuals in counseling and increase the number of professional counselors providing effective, culturally competent services to underserved and never-served populations. The Foundation will distribute \$20,000 to each of the 20 NBCC MFP Doctoral Fellows to support their education and facilitate their service to underserved populations.

The Foundation received nearly 150 applications for this fellowship opportunity. The Minority Fellowship Program Mental Health Counseling Advisory Council, chaired by 2014 MFP Fellow Dr. Dannette Berksteiner, selected 20 of these applicants to receive the fellowship award. These fellows meet the eligibility requirements of the program, including:

- holding the National Certified Counselor (NCC) certification.
- enrollment in a doctoral program accredited by the Council for Accreditation of Counseling and Related Educational Programs (CACREP).
- demonstrated knowledge of and experience with racially and ethnically diverse populations.
- commitment to provide mental health services to underserved populations for at least two years post-graduation.

The fellows will work with NBCC Foundation staff, the MFP Advisory Council, and mentors to achieve the goals of the program.

The 2020 MFP Doctoral Fellows are:

Daniel Cisneros, Oregon State University
Shanelle V. Clay, Duquesne University
Jamian S. Coleman, Georgia State University
Dèsa Karye Daniel, University of New Mexico
Danna Demezier, Florida Atlantic University
Kirsis Allennys Dipre, Syracuse University
Stephanie Dorais, College of William & Mary
Kierrah Flipping, Capella University
Marcus Z. Folkes, University of the Cumberland
Marquita R. Garrett, Walden University
Lisa S. Hanks, University of the Cumberland
Kiersten Hawes, University of Memphis
Rhemma D. Payne, Walden University
Brittany L. Prioleau, The University of North Carolina at Charlotte
PaQuita R. Pullen, Trevecca Nazarene University

Ashlei Rabess, Georgia State University
Asha Rodwell Moses, Walden University
Sunnycho Teeling, University of North Texas
Gerardo Wence-Munoz, University of the Cumberland
Dwayne Maurice White Jr., Auburn University

The NBCC MFP is made possible by a grant awarded to the NBCC Foundation by the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA). The NBCC Foundation administers the MFP, including training and collaboration activities, such as [webinars](#), that are open to all board certified counselors. The NBCC Foundation has also awarded 30 \$10,000 [master's-level fellowships](#) through the MFP-Mental Health Counseling-Master's (MHC-M) and 40 \$15,000 [master's-level fellowships](#) through the MFP-Addictions Counselors (MFP-AC). The NBCC Foundation plans to open the next NBCC MFP application period in fall 2020. To learn more about the NBCC MFP and its fellows, please visit 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 66,000 board certified counselors in the United States and over 50 countries. The NBCC Foundation's mission is to leverage the power of counseling by strategically focusing resources for positive change.

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