

PRESS RELEASE

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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Clarence Keon Bumpas Awarded \$15,000 Counseling Fellowship From the NBCC Foundation



Colorado Springs, CO—The NBCC Foundation, an affiliate of the National Board for Certified Counselors (NBCC), recently selected Clarence Keon Bumpas, of Colorado Springs, Colorado, for the NBCC Minority Fellowship Program for Addictions Counselors (MFP-AC). As an NBCC MFP-AC Fellow, Bumpas will receive funding and training to support his education and facilitate his addictions counseling service to underserved populations.

The NBCC MFP-AC is made possible by a grant awarded to the NBCC Foundation in collaboration with the Association for Addiction Professionals (NAADAC) by the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA). The NBCC Foundation administers the MFP-AC, including training and collaboration activities, such as [webinars](#), that are open to all board certified counselors. 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 Foundation will distribute \$15,000 to Bumpas and the other 39 master's-level addictions counseling students selected to receive the fellowship award. Bumpas is a graduate of the University of Northern Colorado and is currently a master's student in the clinical mental health counseling program at Colorado Christian University. Upon graduation, Bumpas intends to work with the population of at-risk youth, such as minority and inner-city children (K–12). He also hopes to work with at-risk individuals struggling with addictions and mental health disorders in low-income and rural areas, where mental health services are crippled with negative stigma or lack of resources. Earning this fellowship will enable Bumpas to attend counseling conferences, trainings, and other professional development opportunities, allowing him to become the most effective counselor and advocate possible. This will enable him to serve both the counseling profession and underserved communities with best practices.

The NBCC Foundation has also awarded 20 \$20,000 [doctoral fellowships](#) through the MFP and 30 \$10,000 [master's-level fellowships](#) through the MFP-Mental Health Counseling-Master's (MFP-MHC-M). The NBCC Foundation plans to open the next NBCC MFP-AC application period in fall 2020. To learn more about the NBCC MFP and its fellows, please visit nbccf.org/Programs/Fellows.

*Biographical information provided by the awardee.

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 more than 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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