

PRESS RELEASE

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Kirsis Allennys Dipre Awarded \$20,000 Counseling Fellowship From the NBCC Foundation



North Bergen, NJ—The NBCC Foundation, an affiliate of the National Board for Certified Counselors (NBCC), recently selected Kirsis Allennys Dipre, of North Bergen, New Jersey, for the NBCC Minority Fellowship Program for Doctoral Counselors (NBCC MFP). As an NBCC MFP Doctoral Fellow, Dipre will receive funding and training to support her education and facilitate her service to underserved populations.

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 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 Foundation will distribute \$20,000 to Dipre and the other 19 doctoral counseling students selected to receive the fellowship award. Dipre is a graduate of Ball State University and Northwestern University, and she is currently a doctoral student in the counselor education and supervision program at Syracuse University. Dipre is interested in researching the structural barriers to access of mental health services that exist for Latinos, particularly Afro-Latino immigrants in the United States. Her interests are focused on understanding how systems—political, social, and economic—may contribute to the salient concerns outlined in the literature for Afro-Latinos, which include colorism, lack of belongingness, stereotypes related to literacy, mental health stigma, and acculturation processes.

As a graduate assistant at Syracuse University, one of her roles is providing clinical supervision to counselors-in-training working with clients of marginalized identities. This fellowship will help Dipre to continue her involvement in her research area through completion of her dissertation, advocacy efforts for improved training and education of counselors-in-training providing services to Afro-Latino immigrants. This fellowship will help her in continuing to attend professional conferences in which she can best share her research at the national and international level. Lastly, this fellowship will aid Dipre in receiving further training to competently provide services as well as educating future counselors-in training to offer adequate services to Afro-Latino immigrants and other underserved populations.

The NBCC Foundation has also awarded 30 \$10,000 [master's-level fellowships](#) through the MFP-Mental Health Counseling-Master's (MFP-MHC-M) and 40 [master's-level fellowships](#) of \$15,000 through the MFP for 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.

*Biographical information provided by the awardee.

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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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