

PRESS RELEASE

NBCC Foundation
3 Terrace Way
Greensboro, NC 27403
336-232-0376
nbccf.org



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Luz M. Miranda Awarded \$10,000 Counseling Fellowship From the NBCC Foundation



Chicago, IL—The NBCC Foundation, an affiliate of the National Board for Certified Counselors (NBCC), recently selected Luz M. Miranda of Chicago, Illinois, for the NBCC Minority Fellowship Program-Mental Health Counseling-Master's (MFP-MHC-M). As an NBCC MFP-MHC-M Fellow, Miranda will receive funding and training to support her education and facilitate her service to underserved populations.

The NBCC MFP-MHC-M 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-MHC-M, 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 number of professional counselors providing effective, culturally competent services to underserved populations.

The NBCC Foundation will distribute \$10,000 to Miranda and the other 29 master's-level counseling students selected to receive the fellowship award. Miranda is a graduate of Northeastern Illinois University and is currently enrolled at Northwestern University, where she is pursuing a master's degree in the clinical mental health counseling program. Upon graduation, Miranda is determined to use her counseling education to decrease stigma surrounding mental health in the Latinx community. She is particularly interested in serving the Mexican American community in Chicago. Miranda would also like to work with immigrant families and individuals experiencing trauma from deportation, family separation, and fleeing persecution or violence. Earning this fellowship will allow Miranda to participate in counseling conferences where she will build connections with notable and passionate practitioners, receive additional training on serving underserved populations, and advocate for closing the gap in the counseling profession.

The NBCC Foundation has also awarded 20 \$20,000 [doctoral fellowships](#) through the MFP 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-MHC-M 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 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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