

PRESS RELEASE

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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Melissa Renee Rozmiarek Awarded \$15,000 Counseling Fellowship From the NBCC Foundation



Manitowoc, WI—The NBCC Foundation, an affiliate of the National Board for Certified Counselors (NBCC), recently selected Melissa Renee Rozmiarek, of Manitowoc, Wisconsin, for the NBCC Minority Fellowship Program for Addictions Counselors (MFP-AC). As an NBCC MFP-AC Fellow, Rozmiarek will receive funding and training to support her education and facilitate her 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 Rozmiarek and the other 39 master's-level addictions counseling students selected to receive the fellowship award. Rozmiarek is a graduate of the University of St. Thomas and is currently a master's student in the integrated behavioral health program with an addiction counseling focus at the University of Minnesota. Upon graduation, Rozmiarek intends to work with the American Indian and LGBTQ+ communities within the Twin Cities area. She would like to work with those with co-occurring post-traumatic stress disorder and addiction, as those are very prevalent concerns in these minority groups. This fellowship will allow Rozmiarek to attend counseling conferences to establish a stronger professional identity as an addictions and mental health counselor, learn evidence-based practices to better serve underserved populations, and advocate for the counseling profession.

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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