

## PRESS RELEASE

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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### Michael J. Dyson Awarded \$10,000 Counseling Fellowship From the NBCC Foundation



Durham, NC—The NBCC Foundation, an affiliate of the National Board for Certified Counselors (NBCC), recently selected Michael J. Dyson of Durham, North Carolina, for the NBCC Minority Fellowship Program-Mental Health Counseling-Master's (MFP-MHC-M). As an NBCC MFP-MHC-M Fellow, Dyson will receive funding and training to support his education and facilitate his 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 Dyson and the other 29 master's-level counseling students selected to receive the fellowship award. Dyson is a graduate of The University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill and is currently enrolled at North Carolina Central University, where he is pursuing a master's degree in the clinical mental health counseling and career counseling program. Upon graduating, Dyson plans to work with adolescents and adults from rural areas and underserved backgrounds. He would like to ensure that overlooked populations are able to access resources that will help them thrive. Specifically, he would like to focus on helping Black and Brown men navigate life. This fellowship will allow Dyson to develop professionally as a counselor through attending conferences, take a deeper dive into his professional counselor identity, and utilize the expert advice of mentors to develop wellness programs that reach individuals across North Carolina.

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](http://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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