

PRESS RELEASE

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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Shanelle V. Clay Awarded \$20,000 Counseling Fellowship From the NBCC Foundation



Landover, MD—The NBCC Foundation, an affiliate of the National Board for Certified Counselors (NBCC), recently selected Shanelle V. Clay, of Landover, Maryland, for the NBCC Minority Fellowship Program for Doctoral Counselors (NBCC MFP). As an NBCC MFP Doctoral Fellow, Clay 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 Clay and the other 19 doctoral counseling students selected to receive the fellowship award. Clay is a graduate of Delaware State University and Trinity Washington University, and she is currently a doctoral student in the counselor education and supervision program at Duquesne University. Clay is interested in researching the lived experiences of Black female clinical supervisors and the impact of racial stress on mental health clinicians and health care workers. She currently serves as the assistant clinical director at Onyx Therapy Group, which is a minority-, veteran-, and woman-owned and operated mental health company. Clay's role as an Approved Clinical Supervisor (ACS) affords her experience with providing clinical supervision to resident counselors and pre-licensed and licensed psychotherapists.

As a licensed professional counselor in Washington, D.C., and Pennsylvania, she provides individual, group, and crisis services to clients with a variety of mental health needs in person and through telehealth as a Board Certified TeleMental Health Provider (BC-TMH). Her expertise in child and adolescent issues is useful when she serves as a consultant to organizations to increase their knowledge of socio-emotional learning. Clay is a Ronald McNair Scholar, member of Zeta Phi Beta Sorority, Inc., and a member of Chi Sigma Iota. She is also the recipient of the Richard Duncan Memorial Fund. This fellowship will assist her in completing research related to her topic of interest, gain access to clinical training, and increase her involvement in professional organizations.

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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