

## PRESS RELEASE

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
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### Unique Pelletier Awarded \$15,000 Counseling Fellowship From the NBCC Foundation



Providence, RI—The NBCC Foundation, an affiliate of the National Board for Certified Counselors (NBCC), recently selected Unique Pelletier, of Providence, Rhode Island, for the NBCC Minority Fellowship Program for Addictions Counselors (MFP-AC). As an NBCC MFP-AC Fellow, Pelletier 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 Pelletier and the other 39 master's-level addictions counseling students selected to receive the fellowship award. Pelletier is a graduate of Rhode Island College and is currently a master's student in the clinical mental health counseling program at Johnson and Wales University. Pelletier's area of research includes opioid use disorder and comorbidities that coincide with this disorder. She currently works with adults suffering from opioid use disorders at CODAC Behavioral Healthcare. Pelletier's goals during this fellowship are to become more aware of treatment approaches in working with adults suffering from substance use disorders and histories of trauma, increase knowledge of resources available to these individuals, and work on involvement with adolescents and substance use disorders.

Upon graduation, Pelletier plans to continue serving adults with substance use disorders and broaden her experience in working with individuals diagnosed with various mental health disorders, including trauma-related disorders, post-traumatic stress disorder, attention deficit hyperactivity disorder, anxiety, depression, and gender identity disorders. This fellowship will aid her in achieving goals such as expanding her network of individuals in the profession, knowledge of resources, understanding of different treatment approaches, and challenging herself to immerse herself further into the behavioral and mental health field.

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](http://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 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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