

## PRESS RELEASE

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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### **Amber Norman Awarded \$20,000 Counseling Fellowship From NBCC and Affiliates**



Tallahassee, FL—The NBCC Foundation, an affiliate of the National Board for Certified Counselors (NBCC), recently selected Amber Norman, of Tallahassee, Florida, for the National Board for Certified Counselors Minority Fellowship Program (NBCC MFP). As an NBCC MFP Fellow, Norman will receive funding and training to support her education and facilitate her service to underserved minority 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 Foundation administers the MFP, including training and collaboration activities, such as [webinars](#), that are open to all National Certified Counselors (NCCs). 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 Norman and the other 19 doctoral counseling students selected to receive the fellowship award. Norman is a graduate of Florida Agricultural and Mechanical University, in Tallahassee, and is both a student and graduate of the University of Central Florida, in Orlando, where she is currently pursuing a doctoral degree in the counselor education and supervision program. Norman is a Licensed Mental Health Counselor in the state of Florida who specializes in serving ethnic and sexual minorities in community-based health settings. As a practitioner and current doctoral student, she applies systemic frameworks and critical theory to assess how prejudicial systems, ideologies, and behaviors contribute to minority stress and violence. Her research seeks to develop modalities to better understand the culturally specific needs of marginalized groups, particularly minority youth, women of color, and sexual minorities. Currently, Norman is conducting research exploring post-traumatic growth and resilience within female subcultures. This fellowship supports her ability to carry out an intensive qualitative study on violence against women of color, blending cultural, historical, observational, and interview methodology. Assessed with a critical lens, this research centers the contextual underpinnings of systemic trauma and relational healing. Outcomes of this research will be used to redefine resilience models and paradigms of wellness as they relate to marginalized groups.

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-Addictions Counselors (MFP-AC). The Foundation plans to open the next NBCC MFP application period in fall 2019. To learn more about the NBCC MFP and its fellows, please visit [www.nbccf.org/Programs/Fellows](http://www.nbccf.org/Programs/Fellows).

#### 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 Foundation's mission is to leverage the power of counseling by strategically focusing resources for positive change.

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