

**PRESS RELEASE**

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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**Ashley D. Crowder Receives Rural Scholarship From the NBCC Foundation**



Lafayette, TN—The NBCC Foundation, an affiliate of the National Board for Certified Counselors, Inc. (NBCC), recently awarded an \$8,000 2019 NBCC Foundation rural scholarship to Ashley D. Crowder, of Lafayette, Tennessee. The rural scholarship is awarded to counseling students who are from rural communities and commit to practicing in rural areas upon graduation.

The mission of the NBCC Foundation is to leverage the power of counseling by strategically focusing resources for positive change. The Foundation created the rural scholarship in 2009 to improve access to counseling services in rural communities, which suffer disproportionately from a lack of mental health care. More than 85 students from across the country applied for the seven 2019 rural scholarships.

As a rural scholarship recipient, Crowder will receive up to \$8,000 to support her counseling education and recognize her commitment to the underserved. Crowder is a graduate of Austin Peay State University, in Clarksville, Tennessee, and is currently a master's student in the school counseling program at Middle Tennessee State University, in Murfreesboro. Upon graduation, Crowder plans to pursue licensure in both school counseling and mental health counseling. She hopes that these licenses will help her effectively work with school-age students as well as individuals who have been affected by trauma and abuse. Being a recipient of this scholarship will allow her to complete her degree and attend professional conferences that will provide education needed to offer effective evidence-based practices to her community and those that she encounters every day.

The NBCC Foundation has also awarded six \$8,000 [military scholarships](#) to increase the number of counselors serving fellow military personnel, veterans, and their families. The Foundation plans to continue offering scholarships to increase the number of counselors in the areas where they are needed most and will open the next application period in spring 2020. For more information or to make a gift in support of scholars like these, please visit [www.nbccf.org](http://www.nbccf.org).

**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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