

PRESS RELEASE

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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BriAnne Alyce Hutchinson Receives Rural Scholarship From the NBCC Foundation



Willow Creek, CA—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 BriAnne Alyce Hutchinson, of Willow Creek, California. 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, Hutchinson will receive up to \$8,000 to support her counseling education and recognize her commitment to the underserved. Hutchinson is a graduate of the University of California, in Santa Cruz, and is currently a master's student in the mental health counseling program at Lewis & Clark College, in Portland, Oregon. Upon graduation, Hutchinson intends to work in community mental health, specially serving the marginalized rural areas of Northern California in Siskiyou, Humboldt, and Trinity County, where mental health resources are lacking. She would like to start a “mobile mental health access project” to help increase mental health resources along the Trinity and Klamath river corridors. Earning this scholarship will allow Hutchinson to network with other mental health professionals and organizations, build a stronger professional identity as a counselor, learn evidenced-based practices to better serve underserved populations, and advocate for the counseling profession in rural areas.

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.

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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