

PRESS RELEASE  
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## Byron Reese Wells Receives Rural Scholarship From the NBCC Foundation



Boone, NC—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 Byron Reese Wells, of Boone, North Carolina. 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 50 students from across the country applied for the five 2019 rural scholarships.

As a rural scholarship recipient, Wells will receive \$8,000 to support his counseling education and recognize his commitment to the underserved. Wells is a graduate of the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill and is currently a master's student in the clinical mental health counseling program at Appalachian State University in Boone, North Carolina. After graduation, he is committed to working with rural populations and has a deep desire to serve these impacted communities. Wells wants to work with families, couples, and individuals as a community counselor, and he feels especially passionate about working with systemic patterns of unhealthy masculinity through nature-based interventions. Wells also aspires to use his education and privilege to advocate for mental health resources for rural populations at the local and national levels.

The NBCC Foundation has also awarded five \$8,000 [military scholarships](http://nbccf.org) 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 [nbccf.org](http://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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