

PRESS RELEASE

NBCC Foundation
3 Terrace Way
Greensboro, NC 27403-3660
Phone: 336-232-0376
www.nbccf.org



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

August 9, 2019

Jessica G. Martinez Awarded \$15,000 Counseling Fellowship From NBCC and Affiliates



Union City, NJ—The NBCC Foundation, an affiliate of the National Board for Certified Counselors (NBCC), recently selected Jessica G. Martinez, of Union City, New Jersey, for the NBCC Minority Fellowship Program-Addictions Counselors (MFP-AC). As an NBCC MFP-AC Fellow, Martinez will receive funding and training to support her education and facilitate her addictions counseling service to underserved minority 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 Foundation administers the MFP-AC, including training and collaboration activities, such as [webinars](#), that are open to all National Certified Counselors (NCCs). 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 MFP will distribute up to \$15,000 to Martinez and the other 39 master's-level addictions counseling students selected to receive the fellowship award. Martinez is a graduate of Brigham Young University, in Provo, Utah, and is currently a master's student in the addictions counseling program at Montclair State University, in Montclair, New Jersey. Upon graduation, Martinez intends to work with the Latino community and the LGBTQIA community as well. She would like to work with all marginalized communities because substance abuse resources and services are scarce in these populations and in need of counselors that are empathetic and culturally competent. This fellowship will allow Martinez to obtain additional training and education that will enhance her skills and practice.

The NBCC Foundation has also awarded 20 \$20,000 [doctoral fellowships](#) through the Minority Fellowship Program and 30 \$10,000 [master's-level fellowships](#) through the MFP-Mental Health Counseling-Master's (MFP-MHC-M). The Foundation plans to open the next NBCC MFP-AC application period in fall 2019. To learn more about the NBCC MFP and its fellows, please visit <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 65,000 board certified counselors in the United States and more than 50 countries. The Foundation's mission is to leverage the power of counseling by strategically focusing resources for positive change.

###