

PRESS RELEASE

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



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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K. Lynn Pierce Awarded \$20,000 Counseling Fellowship From NBCC and Affiliates



State College, PA—The NBCC Foundation, an affiliate of the National Board for Certified Counselors (NBCC), recently selected K. Lynn Pierce, of State College, Pennsylvania, for the National Board for Certified Counselors Minority Fellowship Program (NBCC MFP). As an NBCC MFP Fellow, Pierce 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 Pierce and the other 19 doctoral counseling students selected to receive the fellowship award. Pierce is a graduate of Georgia State University, in Atlanta, and of the University of Florida, in Gainesville, and is currently a doctoral student in the counselor education and supervision program at The Pennsylvania State University, in University Park. Pierce is interested in researching the needs of those with disabilities, particularly those using highly stigmatized adaptive technologies. Her main line of scholarship is focused on service dog handlers' experiences and integration of service dogs in treatment plans to improve outcomes. She has worked with diverse populations throughout her mental health training, particularly LGBTQIA+ communities and those of minority sexual and affectional orientations. Pierce looks forward to the fellowship increasing her ability to travel to present her ongoing research and to increase her involvement with professional leadership.

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.

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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