

PRESS RELEASE

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Larry LaMont Joe, Jr. Awarded \$15,000 Counseling Fellowship From NBCC and Affiliates



Winston Salem, NC—The NBCC Foundation, an affiliate of the National Board for Certified Counselors (NBCC), recently selected Larry LaMont Joe, Jr., of Winston Salem, North Carolina, for the NBCC Minority Fellowship Program-Addictions Counselors (MFP-AC). As an NBCC MFP-AC Fellow, Joe will receive funding and training to support his education and facilitate his 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 Joe and the other 39 master's-level addictions counseling students selected to receive the fellowship award. Joe is a graduate of Gardner Webb University, in Boiling Springs, North Carolina, and is currently a master's student in the clinical mental health counseling program at North Carolina Central University, in Durham, North Carolina. Upon graduation, Joe intends to continue working with adults with substance use disorders who cannot afford treatment. He would also like to work with people who have a co-occurring disorder with mental health and substance use. He also has a desire to help those who are physically disabled and have a substance use disorder. Earning this fellowship will allow Joe to continue attending counseling conferences, which will also help him to establish a stronger professional identity as a counselor. He will also be able to learn evidence-based practices that can assist him in serving underserved populations and help him become a stronger advocate for the counseling profession.

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.

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