

## 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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### Matthew J Beason Awarded \$15,000 Counseling Fellowship From NBCC and Affiliates



Asheville, NC—The NBCC Foundation, an affiliate of the National Board for Certified Counselors (NBCC), recently selected Matthew J Beason, of Asheville, North Carolina, for the NBCC Minority Fellowship Program-Addictions Counselors (MFP-AC). As an NBCC MFP-AC Fellow, Beason 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 Beason and the other 39 master's-level addictions counseling students selected to receive the fellowship award. Beason is a graduate of the University of North Carolina at Asheville, and is currently a master's student in the clinical mental health counseling program at Appalachian State University, in Boone, North Carolina. Upon graduation, Beason plans to work with addicted adolescent clients in a rural setting. He would like to start in a community mental health setting where he will learn how to be effective in a variety of environments. Further, he will continue working toward his Licensed Clinical Addictions Specialist certification. With this certification, he will be highly qualified and have the greatest access to working with his target population. Additionally, he will continue to receive and apply feedback from his supervisors and colleagues on how to best serve his future clients. This fellowship will allow Beason to better serve underserved populations and 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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