

## PRESS RELEASE

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### Alexis Duckett Faison Awarded \$8,000 Counseling Fellowship From NBCC and Affiliates



Winston-Salem, NC—The NBCC Foundation, an affiliate of the National Board for Certified Counselors (NBCC), recently selected Alexis Duckett Faison of Winston-Salem, North Carolina, for the NBCC Minority Fellowship Program-Youth (MFP-Y). As an NBCC MFP-Y Fellow, Faison will receive funding and training to support her education and facilitate her service to underserved minority populations, with a specific focus on transition-age youth (ages 16–25).

The NBCC MFP-Y is made possible by a grant awarded to NBCC by the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) in September 2014. The Foundation is contracted by NBCC to administer the NBCC MFP-Y, as well as 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

number of available culturally competent behavioral health professionals.

The NBCC MFP will distribute \$8,000 education awards to Faison and the 29 other master's-level counseling students selected to receive the fellowship award. Faison is a graduate of The University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill and is both a student and graduate of Arizona State University, in Tempe, where she is pursuing a master's in clinical mental health counseling. While getting her master's degree, Faison works with community college students as an academic adviser. She enjoys guiding them through the college process, which is an important stage in life for young adults. She feels her purpose in life is to advocate and support underrepresented and minority students through various transitions in life, especially along their educational trajectory. Upon graduation, Faison plans to continue to work with minority transition-age youth, particularly those who identify as low-income and first generation. Faison would also like to continue conducting research aimed at studying minority youth and their families in order to better serve communities that often lack mental health services and resources. This fellowship will allow Faison to attend counseling conferences to further develop her skills and training as a counselor, which will aid her in continuing to serve and advocate for underrepresented populations.

The NBCC Foundation has also awarded 23 \$20,000 [doctoral fellowships](#) through the Minority Fellowship Program and 34 master's-level fellowships of up to \$11,000 through the [MFP-Addictions Counselors](#) (MFP-AC). The Foundation plans to open the next NBCC MFP-Y application period in fall 2018. 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 64,000 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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