

PRESS RELEASE

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Mary E. Woodson Awarded \$11,000 Counseling Fellowship From NBCC and Affiliates



Greenville, NC—The NBCC Foundation, an affiliate of the National Board for Certified Counselors (NBCC), recently selected Mary E. Woodson, of Greenville, North Carolina, for the NBCC Minority Fellowship Program-Addictions Counselors (MFP-AC). As an NBCC MFP-AC Fellow, Woodson will receive funding and training to support her education and facilitate her addictions counseling service to underserved minority transition-age youth (ages 16–25).

The NBCC MFP-AC 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-AC, 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 available number of culturally competent behavioral health professionals.

The NBCC MFP will distribute up to \$11,000 to Woodson and the 33 other master’s-level addictions counseling students selected to receive the fellowship award. Woodson is both a student and graduate of East Carolina University, in Greenville, North Carolina, where she is currently pursuing a master’s in the clinical addictions and mental health counseling program. Upon graduation, Woodson intends to work with transition-age minority youth, particularly those impacted in various ways by substance use disorders. She would like to focus her work on marginalized groups, recognizing the lack of mental health and addictions resources for these communities. This fellowship will allow Woodson to travel to learn about substance use treatments in the United States and in different parts of the world. Being able to network throughout the fellowship will allow Woodson to establish her professional identity as an addictions and mental health counselor and provide her with the evidence-based skills she needs to better serve those in her community and around the world.

The NBCC Foundation has also awarded 23 \$20,000 [doctoral fellowships](#) through the Minority Fellowship Program and 30 \$8,000 master’s-level fellowships through the [MFP-Youth](#) (MFP-Y). The Foundation plans to open the next NBCC MFP-AC 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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