

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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Jasmine Eileen Santiago Awarded \$20,000 Counseling Fellowship From NBCC and Affiliates



Union County, NJ—The NBCC Foundation, an affiliate of the National Board for Certified Counselors (NBCC), recently selected Jasmine Eileen Santiago, of Union County, New Jersey, for the National Board for Certified Counselors Minority Fellowship Program (NBCC MFP). As an NBCC MFP Fellow, Santiago 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 first awarded to NBCC by the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) in August 2012. The Foundation is contracted by NBCC to administer the NBCC MFP, 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 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 MFP will distribute \$20,000 to Santiago and the 22 other doctoral counseling students selected to receive the fellowship award. Santiago is a graduate of William Paterson University, in Wayne, New Jersey, and is both a student and graduate of Montclair State University, in New Jersey, where she is currently pursuing a doctoral degree in counselor education and supervision. Santiago is interested in researching and understanding the intersections of race, class, and gender among marginalized communities. While pursuing her doctoral studies, Santiago is a Licensed Professional Counselor in a psychiatric private practice providing mental health and substance abuse services to a diverse clientele. Santiago is particularly focused on social justice advocacy, confronting systems or barriers that prevent marginalized members of the community from seeking services. One of her roles at Montclair State University is a doctoral fellowship assisting faculty with various research projects. Santiago is excited and honored to receive the fellowship, which will help her develop connections with other like-minded and dedicated individuals. The fellowship will further assist Santiago to make significant contributions in professional practice as a leader within the field of counseling and continue to serve priority underserved populations utilizing the mentorship, training, and resources in her fellowship with NBCC.

The NBCC Foundation has also awarded 30 \$8,000 master's-level fellowships through the [MFP-Youth](#) (MFP-Y) 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 application period in fall 2018. 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 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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