

PRESS RELEASE

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Jess Ryan Receives Rural Scholarship From the NBCC Foundation



Laramie, WY—The NBCC Foundation, an affiliate of the National Board for Certified Counselors, Inc. (NBCC), recently awarded an \$8,000 2018 NBCC Foundation rural scholarship to Jess Ryan, of Laramie, Wyoming. The rural scholarship is awarded to counseling students who are from rural communities and commit to practicing in rural areas upon graduation.

The mission of the NBCC Foundation is to leverage the power of counseling by strategically focusing resources for positive change. The Foundation created the rural scholarship in 2009 to improve access to counseling services in rural communities, which suffer disproportionately from a lack of mental health care. More than 75 students from across the country applied for the six 2018 rural scholarships.

As a rural scholarship recipient, Ryan will receive \$8,000 to support her counseling education and recognize her commitment to the underserved. Ryan is a graduate of Youngstown State University, in Ohio, and is both a student and graduate of the University of Wyoming, in Laramie, where she is currently pursuing a master's in the mental health counseling program. Following graduation, Ryan plans to integrate her counseling degree with her previous yoga, life-coaching, and wellness experiences to serve rural populations and address topics such as trauma, suicide prevention, grief, resilience, and intergenerational trauma in underserved areas. Ryan already holds trauma-informed, evidence-based, holistic, mind-body, and self-regulation classes. With her degree, Ryan hopes to expand her one-on-one services and group trainings, and offer continuing education to other helping professionals so these tools can be offered in rural practices across her state of Wyoming and the nation. As a first-generation college student from a rural area, Ryan has a passion for community building, networking, and social justice issues and hopes to use this award to advocate for quality mental health and healing opportunities for those underserved in rural regions.

The NBCC Foundation has also awarded six \$8,000 [military scholarships](#) to increase the number of counselors serving fellow military personnel, veterans, and their families. The Foundation plans to continue offering scholarships to increase the number of counselors in the areas where they are needed most and will open the next application period in fall 2018. For more information or to make a gift in support of scholars like these, please visit www.nbccf.org.

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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