Build Your Counseling Career With the NCC Credential!

National Certified Counselor (NCC) Credential
The National Certified Counselor (NCC) is a voluntary credential that identifies to members of the public and prospective employers that you have met national certification standards based on research conducted in the field.

Benefits of National Certification
The NCC credential can be an effective profile booster in your job search. As a credential holder, you can use the NCC designation on your résumé and business cards. In addition, you will have access to various professional resources, product discounts and professional liability insurance discounts.

NCC Requirements
To hold the NCC, you must have a qualifying master’s or doctoral degree, pass a national exam, meet experience and supervision requirements, adhere to a strict code of ethics, and participate in continuing education activities.

Application Process for Students
If you are well advanced in your counselor education program at a participating university, your campus coordinator can nominate you to participate. Once nominated, NBCC will provide you with a link to the application. For a list of participating universities, visit http://www.nbcc.org/InnerPageLinks/ParticipatingSchools.

Advantages of Beginning the National Certification Process as a Graduate Student
Applying for national certification while you’re a student gives you a head start on meeting the requirements for the NCC credential. You can take the National Counselor Examination for Licensure and Certification (NCE) in the familiar surroundings of your own campus, while you’re still enrolled and while your book knowledge is fresh. Once you have completed the requirements, you can have your exam scores sent to third parties such as state licensure boards.

Uniqueness of National Certification
The process for becoming nationally certified is similar to but distinct from the process for becoming state licensed. Licensure requirements differ between states, whereas national certification travels with you across state lines and international boundaries. For information about licensure requirements in your state, please contact your state licensure board. You can find their information through our State Board Directory at www.nbcc.org/directory.

For more information, visit the Certification tab at nbcc.org.

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