



Institute Frequently Asked Questions

1. What is an institute?

An NBCC-I institute is a multicultural immersion program that includes professional travel experiences to selected locations that allow participants to work and interact with the local culture and tour the program's host community.

2. What is the difference between an institute for education and an institute for service learning?

An institute for education is designed for NCCs, counselors and counseling students, and other interested professionals. Participants can learn about the local community's mental health needs and resources and earn continuing education hours. An institute for service learning is created for NCCs and other counselors. The itinerary may include presentations, conferences and teaching opportunities and counselors may provide other counseling-related services based on the needs of the local community. Participants earn continuing education hours.

National Certified Counselors (NCCs) receive priority enrollment for both types of institutes.

3. Who is eligible to attend?

NCCs receive priority enrollment for all institute trips. Participant eligibility for institutes depends on the type of institute and parameters set by the hosting institute partner.

4. Why should I participate in an institute?

Institutes offer participants a multicultural experience in which they can interact directly with the local community and learn about the culture and traditions. Though the itineraries are concentrated on events and activities that enrich a counselor's perspective, other professionals can also benefit from the experience by gaining a better understanding of the history and practices of another culture.

5. Are guests allowed?

Select institute trips are open to participants' guests. Guests are also required to complete an application form and responsible for the same institute fees.

6. How many continuing education hours will I receive?

Continuing education hours vary, and this information will be available on the webpage for each institute.

7. What is MHF?

Selected institutes include [Mental Health Facilitator \(MHF\)](#) training. The MHF program was created by NBCC International (NBCC-I) and initially developed in collaboration with the World Health Organization. The program aims to improve mental health access in community settings by providing education on fundamental helping and referral skills.

8. How long are the institutes?

Institutes typically vary between from seven to 14 days, excluding travel. Some institutes offer optional extension trips that can add an additional three to four days.

9. What is included in the institute fee?

Institute fee inclusions and exclusions are provided on the webpage for each institute.

10. Who leads the institutes?

Institutes are either led by NBCC-I staff, institute partners or chosen representatives.

11. Are there scholarships available?

NBCC-I does not currently offer institute scholarships. However, we hope to offer financial assistance in the program's future.

12. Do you offer institutes anywhere else?

We update the institutes webpage whenever a new date and location is confirmed. We also inform NCCs of upcoming institutes through e-mail.