



nbcc
INTERNATIONAL®

Your Guide to NBCC International

Mission Statement

NBCC-I promotes:

- Quality assurance in counseling practice;
- The value of culturally sensitive counseling;
- Public awareness of quality counseling practice;
- Professionalism in counseling; and
- Leadership in credentialing.





Table of Contents

Introduction.....	2
About NBCC International	3
About Counseling	4
International Offices.....	5-7
About Country-Specific Certification	8-9
Mental Health Facilitator.....	10-11



Introduction

A message from Dr. Thomas Clawson, President and CEO NBCC and Affiliates

NBCC International (NBCC-I) was founded by counselors for the express purpose of promoting professional counseling around the world. In light of our core belief that counseling is only relevant if it reflects the cultural, social, educational and economic realities of a particular context, NBCC-I decided it would adopt a collaborative rather than a consultative stance.

In assuming a collaborative stance, NBCC-I works with local counseling experts to identify the current state of counseling as a unique discipline and pinpoint what might be needed to further promote counseling and counselors. It is with great conviction that we focus our efforts on context-specific credentialing programs, rather than broad multinational ones. With this in mind, NBCC-I will continue to promote high-quality professional counseling worldwide.



About NBCC International

NBCC-I was founded in 2003 as a division of the National Board for Certified Counselors, Inc. and Affiliates (NBCC) in response to an increasing number of requests from colleagues and agencies outside the United States for help in promoting counseling and developing counselor credentialing mechanisms.

NBCC-I collaborates:

- With organizations such as the World Health Organization and the African Union Southern Africa Regional Office.
- On regional and country-specific projects with counseling bodies, universities and government agencies.
- In the development of credentials and the coordination of international conferences.
- On activities in mental health and educational and vocational guidance.

In recognition of the work of NBCC-I and its parent organization, UNESCO has granted NBCC status as a nongovernmental organization (NGO) in consultative partnership with UNESCO.



About Counseling

Counseling is defined as “a professional relationship that empowers diverse individuals, families and groups to accomplish mental health, wellness, education and career goals.” (20/20: A Vision for the Future of Counseling, 2010)

Professional counselors use knowledge and skills to assist clients in coping with issues that include stress, death, career concerns, mental illness and other life challenges.



International Offices

NBCC International works with professionals in other countries to establish national or regional offices when:

- Collaborations have advanced to the point that leaders are expressing a need for a locally placed office.
- This will further the counseling professionalization goals of that country or region.

Offices are staffed with local professionals and become the communication center for that country or region's work.

Contact Information

NBCC-I HEADQUARTERS

3 Terrace Way
Greensboro, NC 27403 USA
Tel: 336-547-0607
Web: www.nbccinternational.org
Vice Presidents: Dr. Wendi Schweiger and Dr. Andreea Szilagyi

European Board for Certified Counselors (EBCC)

Alameda das Linhas de Torres, N.º 179
Edifício 27, 2º Andar, Gabinete 3
1750-142 Lisboa – Portugal
Web: www.europeanbcc.eu
Vice President: Dr. Andreea Szilagyi

NBCC ARGENTINA

Alsina 114
San Isidro Prov. de Buenos Aires, Argentina
Web: www.holossanchezbodas.com.ar/nbccargentina
Director: Mr. Andrés Sánchez Bodas

NBCC BHUTAN

Phendey Oudpel Lam, Phendey Gatsel,
Lower Motithang,
P.O. Box 1404
Thimphu, Bhutan
Director: Ms. Tshering Dolkar

NBCC BULGARIA

7 San Stefano Str., ap. 4
1504 Sofia, Bulgaria
Web: <http://bulgaria.nbcc.org>
Director: Mrs. Gergana Rakovska

NBCC GERMANY

Am Spörkel 37a,
44227 Dortmund, Germany
Web: www.nbccde.org
Director: Dr. Barbara Weissbach

NBCC GREECE

24 Fleming str., Nea Filothei Amarousiou
15123 Athens, Greece
Web: www.nbcc.gr
Director: Mrs. Maria Koutsafti

NBCC MALAWI

P.O. Box 30058,
Lilongwe 3, Malawi

NBCC MALAYSIA

USAINS Holding Sdn Bhd
Universiti Sains Malaysia, 11800 USM
Penang, Malaysia
Web: <http://nbccmalaysia.usainsgroup.com/>
Director: Prof. Dato' Susie See Ching Mey

NBCC MEXICO

Universidad Iberoamericana
Prol. Paseo de la Reforma # 880
Lomas de Santa Fe, C.P. 01210 Mexico, D.F., Mexico
Director: Dr. Antonio Tena

NBCC ROMANIA

Calea Vacaresti 187
Sector 4
Cod 004051
Bucharest, Romania
Web: www.nbcc.ro
Executive Director: Dr. Ioana Panc



About Country-Specific Certification

www.nbccinternational.org/What_we_do/country_specific_ncc

NBCC and its affiliates have more than 30 years of experience in developing and administrating certification as a quality assurance mechanism. Certification is an important part of counseling professionalization and development.

Certification:

- Recognizes superior preparation and practices.
- Allows for the ready identification of qualified service providers.
- Protects the public.
- Promotes professional identity.
- Assures that qualified individuals practice a profession.

What Is the NCC-Country?

The creation of a certification is an indication that counseling professionals within a particular country believe setting standards through certification is an appropriate step in the profession's evolution. In order to be truly useful to consumers and practitioners, NBCC-I collaborates with counseling leaders in other countries to create professional counseling certifications based on cultural, developmental and training realities in those countries.

Although collaborating partners are required to establish criteria-specified standards, NBCC-I does not determine what these criteria are. Rather, leaders in partner countries decide what is appropriate

based on local education and practice.

NBCC-I offers its professional expertise in creating the following standards:

- Education—Counseling-specific counselor preparation;
- Experience—Amount of time required to practice under supervision;
- Assessment—Demonstration of minimal competence at a predetermined level;
- Standards of Professional Practice and Conduct (e.g., code of ethics)—Standards defining practice and conduct and what is deemed a breach of those standards; and
- Continuing Education—Recertification requirements to remain abreast of current professional trends.

Although collaborating partners are required to establish criteria-specified standards, NBCC-I does not determine what these criteria are. Rather, leaders in the partnering countries decide what is appropriate based on local education and practice.



What Is the Mental Health Facilitator?

www.mentalhealthfacilitator.org

The Mental Health Facilitator (MHF) program is designed to improve access to community-based mental health care. The MHF program consists of a training framework and generates a registry of individuals who have completed the training.

Those trained are not a new professional group; they retain their professional identity and augment their work with MHF skills that complement existing care resources.

Mental Health Facilitators are not a new professional group; they complement existing care resources.

Why Are MHFs Needed?



Identify individual needs to create community response.

This program tries to correct the imbalance between mental health care needs and resources.

- The World Health Organization (WHO) estimates that more than 450 million people live with unmet mental health needs.
- Even in wealthy countries, there are not enough trained care providers.
- Unmet mental health needs are costly socially and economically.

MHF Training

Training focuses on preparing individuals for a variety of basic mental health situations in a multicultural and multidisciplinary context. For this reason, counselors, psychologists, psychiatrists, nurses and members of related professions helped to design the program.

Training providers start with NBCC-I's core curriculum—a compilation of mental health knowledge and skills—and then contextualize content, including role-playing and other class activities, to fit local norms.

The MHF base curriculum includes these core competencies:

- Helping skills
- Mental stress, distress and disorders
- Disaster/trauma response
- Community resources
- Referral to other resources or professional services

Due to feedback from current and potential partners, NBCC-I has recently expanded the curricula offered as part of the MHF program.

- MHF Curriculum: original 30-hour training
- MHF-ASAP! Curriculum: abbreviated 8-hour training
- MHF-EE Curriculum: 24-hour training for school personnel



Address: 3 Terrace Way
Greensboro, NC 27403
USA
Telephone: 336-547-0607
Fax: 336-482-2812
Web site: www.nbccinternational.org
E-mail: nbccinternational@nbcc.org

Copyright © National Board for Certified Counselors, Inc. (NBCC). All rights reserved. Reproduction in whole or part is prohibited without written authorization from NBCC-I.

