

# Emergency Management Education and Training Program of the Year 2026

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The **Emergency Management Education and Training Program of the Year Award** recognizes a college, university, or a Federal, state, local, tribal, military training agency, a recognized private agency/organization, or non-government organization (NGO) that offers and has students enrolled in and who successfully complete Emergency Management courses in Mitigation, Preparedness, Response, Recovery, and/or Planning.

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## Eligibility

- A “program” is defined as one that offers students a foundational education in preparing for, responding to, recovering from mitigating the effects and prevention of emergencies; or addresses on-going professional development issues within the field of Emergency Management. These programs educate students in the latest developments in the field, both in terms of theory, concepts, processes, technology techniques and practice.
- The program nominated focuses on either higher education or professional development for individuals pursuing or working in Comprehensive Emergency Management programs (Mitigation, Preparedness, Response, Recovery, and or Planning). Programs may include but are not limited to subjects such as Incident Command, Incident Action Planning, or Emergency Operations Centers, disaster mitigation and preparedness, Emergency Management Introduction courses, disaster recovery, or community resilience.
- The Program must be offered by an agency or organization in the United State or one of its’ territories. Virtual learning programs are acceptable.
- Not eligible: programs for law enforcement, fire service, emergency medical services/first aid, search and rescue, Homeland Security courses or hazardous materials response.
- A nominee for Emergency Management Education and Training Program of the Year must **not** have received the Emergency Management Education and Training Program of the Year award in the past.
- The nominee or nominator does **not** have to be a member of the IAEM.
- Self-nominations are **not** accepted.
- The award considers contributions and achievements during the previous calendar year.
- A representative of the recipient does not need to attend the IAEM Annual Conference to be selected although they are strongly encouraged to participate in the conference. The IAEM Awards Committee or judges are not informed about conference registration and do not consider it in decision-making.

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## Completing the Official Award Entry/Nomination

- **Method:** An entry **must** be submitted in English on the official IAEM awards portal available on the Membership Dashboard on the iaem.org website. Non-IAEM members who wish to submit an entry for this award must register as a Guest on the IAEM website to gain access to the awards portal. Non-members of IAEM must pay a \$75 entry fee. All entry details must be complete, or the entry will be disqualified. Please note some fields have word count limitations.

- **Supporting Materials:** No supporting materials are required for this award.

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## Judging Criteria

Documentation of the following criteria must be submitted via the awards portal.

Category	Documentation	Weight
<b>Program</b>	Describe the nominated program and how it is related to comprehensive emergency management or a subset of emergency management functions. The program should be exemplary and a model that others may want to adopt and adapt for their own use and must be easily replicable for easy adoption with other programs. The program must be more than regular on-the-job training.	30%
<b>Impact and Results</b>	Explain the impact of the Program and how you measure program success. Describe impact of the Program such as gaps filled in the education and training of Emergency Managers, Students or Volunteers in the area and impacts it may have contributed to in the staffing of local/regional Emergency Management offices/departments.	30%
<b>Metrics</b>	State the number of course(s) included in the nominated program and aggregate number of registered students enrolled and number successfully completed over the past calendar year. Include history of the program, how long it has been established, longevity of the program and total number of graduates that have benefitted. Include course description and number of hours for completion, who is eligible to attend and what the cost is to the student.	30%
<b>Recognition or Awards</b>	Describe if the Program has been recognized by professional organizations, accrediting bodies, societies, governments, or elected officials and any awards the Program may have received and when award(s) were given.	10%

## Judging Process

The award entries will be judged based on the compliance of content requirements explained above.

All award entries will be evaluated through an unbiased selection process.

Only written documentation via entries and uploads on the awards portal will be reviewed. Incomplete entries will not be considered.

Judges are assigned by the Awards & Recognition Committee Chair or designee. Judges who have a conflict-of-interest as defined in the *IAEM Code of Conduct* will be recused from judging that entry.

Judges will provide a recommendation for selection of one recipient of this award to the IAEM-USA Awards and Recognition Committee whose decisions are final. Any questions can be referred to the Awards and Recognition Committee Chair.

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### **Announcement of Award Results**

Once the USA Awards and Recognition Committee confirms the award recipient, IAEM Headquarters will notify the recipient, the nominator, and the recipient's IAEM Region President. Additionally, nominators of entries not selected will be notified.

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### **Questions**

If you have a question about this award or its criteria, please email: [awards@iaem.com](mailto:awards@iaem.com). Phone calls are not accepted. Email questions prior to the entry deadline. Late submissions will not be accepted.