

IAEM Student Advocate of the Year 2026

The **IAEM Student Advocate of the Year Award** recognizes an individual (IAEM member or non-member) or organization that has assisted, promoted, or supported students in their activities in the field of emergency management and higher education. Examples could be individuals who ensured student involvement in emergency management programs or someone who guides students toward involvement in IAEM, their professional degrees or attainment of the CEM/AEM designation.

Since this award combines elements of the former Student Ally of the Year and Student Chapter Advisor of the Year, this award may recognize an individual or organization who has made great strides in assisting students to further their education and career goals in emergency management.

Eligibility

- A nominee for Student Advocate of the Year must not have received an award in a previous year.
 - The nominee does not have to be a member of the IAEM.
 - Self-nominations are not accepted.
 - The award considers contributions and achievements during the previous school calendar year
 - The award recipient does not need to be present at the IAEM Annual Conference to be selected, although the award recipient is strongly encouraged to participate in the conference.
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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 after logging in on the iaem.org website. People who are not members of the IAEM who wish to submit an entry must register as a Guest on the IAEM website to gain access to the awards entry portal.
 - **Remain within specified limits:** Some entry details have limits on the number of words. Information that exceeds the word limit will be truncated and excess words will not be visible to judges. Be concise!
 - **Complete all entry details:** Fill in each blank on the award entry portal. Incomplete information will cause the entry to be rejected.
 - **Deadline:** Entry must be submitted no later than the submission deadline announced by the IAEM via email and on its website. Late entries will not be considered.
 - **Supporting Materials:** No supporting materials are required for this award, such as recommendations or letters of support, are requested.
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Judging Criteria

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

Category	Documentation	Weight
Student Advisement	Describe how the nominee assisted, promoted, or supported students in the field of emergency management and higher education. This could also include how the nominee supports an IAEM student chapter.	35%
Engagement to Ensure Student Involvement	Demonstrate activities that engage student involvement in emergency management. Provide specifics on engagement activities. This may include starting a new student chapter, significantly enhancing a chapter's growth and service.	35%
Guidance	Describes academic and professional guidance the nominee has provided to students.	20%
Promoting IAEM	The nominee has encouraged participation in IAEM.	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.

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.

Questions

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