



NYCEM

New York City Emergency Management

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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NYC EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT JOHN D. SOLOMON FELLOWSHIP FOR PUBLIC SERVICE APPLICATION PERIOD NOW OPEN

Program participants will gain hands-on experience in public service

*The fellowship is open to graduate students in the New York City metropolitan
area*

February 13, 2025 — The New York City Emergency Management Department (NYCEM) announced the application period is now open for the John D. Solomon Fellowship for Public Service. The fellowship selects 10 exceptional graduate students to embark on a nine-month journey focused on emergency management within various City agencies and the American Red Cross in Greater New York. Now in its 14th year, the John D. Solomon Fellowship for Public Service is the first graduate student fellowship devoted to emergency management. The [application period is open until March 16, 2025](#)

“John D. Solomon was a devoted public servant to his beloved New York City. His work as a journalist and a New York City Community Emergency Response (NYC CERT) member exemplified his dedication to emergency preparedness and resiliency,” said **New York City Emergency Management Commissioner Zach Iscol**. “The John D. Solomon Fellowship for Public Service is critical for developing the next generation of public servants. We extend our gratitude to the Solomon family for their generosity in honoring John's memory through this fellowship.”

“The last thing John would want is a Fellowship that does not inspire its remarkable Fellows and meaningfully impact his beloved New York City,” noted **James Solomon, John's brother and the John D. Solomon Fellowship co-founder**. “Since Day One, John D. Solomon Fellows have been integral to their agencies and contributed in ways they could not imagine.”

“The John D. Solomon Fellowship for Public Service is a great introduction to roles in public service and how City agencies support everyday New Yorkers in various emergencies,” said **NYCEM Assistant Commissioner of External Affairs Ira Tannenbaum**. “Every year we are honored to welcome talented graduate students with diverse backgrounds to be part of this fellowship, many foster lifelong connections with their colleagues, agency supervisors, and program alumni.”

The fellows selected will commit 15-20 hours per week over a nine-month period at their assigned NYC agency/organization. They will also engage in professional development and networking opportunities, including at City Hall and the United Nations. Fellows will also receive a \$10,000 stipend, made possible through the Program's generous supporters, including a recent grant from the NBA.

Interested graduate students have until March 16 to [apply](#).

John D. Solomon Fellows of the 2024-2025 class include:

- **Alanis Allen** - NYCEM, Risk Analysis & Recovery (NYU, Master of Public Administration) is

currently draft analyzing the City's September 2023 severe flooding impacts and recovery.

- **Douglas Berger** - NYCEM, Strategic Partnerships (NYU, Master of Urban Planning) is developing an educational tool kit on flood risk for the City's small businesses.
- **Stephanie Lemus** - NYPD, (CUNY, Master of Public Health) is working on a new CPR/Tourniquet Presentation and Instructor Manual for Auxiliary Police Officers.
- **Jaxon Richards** - FDNY, (Columbia, Master of Public Administration) is collaborating with community stakeholders to promote fire safety education and awareness.

The late John D. Solomon, an accomplished journalist who focused on homeland security and other public policy issues, established the John D. Solomon Fellowship for Public Service in 2012. A devoted public servant and active member of his local New York City Community Emergency Response Team (NYC CERT), John was a passionate advocate of emergency preparedness and resilience.

NYC Emergency Management administers the John D. Solomon Fellowship for Public Service, the first student fellowship in New York City devoted specifically to emergency management. To date, the program has welcomed more than 105 fellows over 13 years into 14 different New York City agencies and organizations, representing close to 50,000 service hours. Over 42 percent of fellowship alumni have moved on to careers in New York City or New York State government.

-30-

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