



National Emergency Management Advanced Academy (NEMAA) Overview/FY26 Application Process

Purpose:

To provide an overview of the National Emergency Management Advanced Academy (NEMAA) Program and the Fiscal Year (FY) 26 application process.

Program Description:

The [National Emergency Management Advanced Academy](#) is a component of the [Emergency Management Professional Program](#) (EMPP).

NEMAA reinforces the qualities needed to lead Emergency Management (EM) programs by exploring relevant management theories and concepts and uses case studies to enhance EM skill sets. NEMAA participants work within a collaborative environment on projects and establish a network of peers.

NEMAA is designed for mid-level managers/professionals with a background and experience in an EM position who want to advance their careers. Participants gain the knowledge critical to EM responsibilities, such as program management and oversight, effective communication at all levels, integrated collaboration, and strategic thinking.

NEMAA provides participants the opportunity to demonstrate their critical thinking ability through a guided NEMAA paper. Participants apply the key learning concepts from the NEMAA curriculum relative to their own experiences, challenges within their organizations, and within their own contemporary community environments.

For more information, visit the [EMPP website](#).

Target Audience:

NEMAA is designed for EM professionals with a background and experience serving in an organization or having a significant role connected to the profession of EM, such as: state, local, tribal, territorial, military, Federal, and consortium EM agencies or with an organization in an associated field, such as: public health, higher education, medical, and private sector organizations.

Application Process (April 1–July 1, 2025):

Completed application packets will be reviewed by a formal selection board. The application window is **April 1–July 1, 2025**, with selections and announcements in August.

The selected participants will be placed in one of the two cohorts by the selection panel.

Cohort I (tentative dates):

- E0451: Advanced I: Application of Advanced Individual Concepts in Emergency Management – October 27–31, 2025
- E0452: Advanced II: Assessment of Teams in Professional Emergency Management – January 26–30, 2026

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- E0453: Advanced III: Contemporary Issues in the Emergency Management Organization – May 4–8, 2026
- E0454: Advanced IV: Advanced Concepts and Policy in the EM Profession – August 3–7, 2026

Cohort II (tentative dates):

- E0451: Advanced I: Application of Advanced Individual Concepts in Emergency Management – November 3–7, 2025
- E0452: Advanced II: Assessment of Teams in Professional Emergency – February 2–6, 2026
- E0453: Advanced III: Contemporary Issues in the Emergency Management Organization – May 11–15, 2026
- E0454: Advanced IV: Advanced Concepts and Policy in the EM Profession – August 10–14, 2026

Application Selection Criteria:

Applications will be evaluated based on recommended prerequisites to include:

- Depth and breadth of direct experience in an EM position
- Project and working group leadership
- Substantial continuing service commitment
- Contribution to the field
- Whole community representation

NOTE: Completion of the Basic Academy is **NOT** a prerequisite to apply for the Advanced Academy/NEMAA.

Classroom Requirements:

The NEMAA Program consists of four resident courses, each **5 days** in length. Attendance at each course is required and **must** be attended in sequential order (see above) during **FY26**. An updated list of course dates will be sent to applicants accepted into the Program. The courses are not offered individually.

How to Apply:

The Application Package Document is the only acceptable form to submit when applying. Incomplete application packages will not be considered by the selection panel.

1. The [Application Package Document](#) needs to be downloaded and saved to your PC prior to filling it out. This one document, which is a fillable PDF form, is all you need to send to FEMA-EMPP-Advanced-Academy@fema.dhs.gov to be considered for this program.

This form includes:

- **Candidate Information**
- A **cover letter** requesting consideration for admission to the program and specifying the applicant's qualifications and expectations of the program.
- **Resume** – Space is provided for:
 - **Emergency Management Experience:** (Example: Feb 2020–present; 3 years; Director, Maryland EMA)
 - **Boards, Commission, Associations:** (Example: Committee Chair, International Association of Emergency Managers, 2018–present or Hugh O'Brian Youth Leadership (HOBY) Chairperson, 2018–2020)
 - **Education:** (Example: University of Maryland University College, M.S. Emergency Management, August 2017)
 - **Training & Certifications:** (Example: National Emergency Management Basic Academy, National Disaster & Emergency Management University, Emmitsburg, MD, September 2017)
 - **Other:** In the event you need more space from an area above or have additional information you feel the selection panel should take into consideration when reviewing your package.

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- **Advanced Academy Commitment Statement:** This indicates commitment to complete the entire program, which consists of the four resident courses at NDEMU and the NEMAA paper.
 - **Academy Questionnaire:** Consists of five questions reviewed by the selection committee to assist in determining the most qualified candidates.
 - A **Recommendation** letter from your immediate Supervisor. If you are self-employed and do not have an immediate supervisor, then please use your most recent supervisor.
 - **Signatures:** This page has a location for the electronic signatures of both the applicant and the applicant's supervisor. If you are self-employed and do not have an immediate supervisor, then please use your most recent supervisor.
2. Once the Application Package is complete with signatures, save the document as a PDF file with the following naming convention: **LastnameFirstname.AA.FY26**
Example: JonesRobert.AA.FY26
 3. The final step is to email your completed Application Package to FEMA-EMPP-Advanced-Academy@fema.dhs.gov.

NDEMU NEMAA Point of Contact:

For questions, please email Advanced Academy at FEMA-EMPP-Advanced-Academy@fema.dhs.gov.

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