



## Mental Health Resilience Officer Fellowship Program – Cohort Two

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### Request for Nominees

#### **Summary:**

Join the second cohort of a comprehensive, one-year, EMS Mental Health fellowship program designed to equip EMS leaders and clinicians with the tools to develop and support mental health and well-being in their agencies. This statewide program aims to select at least one EMS mental health champion, from each of the 18 EMS Regions, to become a Resilience Officer Fellow, providing them with specialized training and peer collaboration.

Fellows will participate in a three-day “kick-off” event, foundational mental health training, and monthly virtual or in-person meetings; gaining the knowledge to become a resilience officer and develop an impactful peer support program in their agency.

Through training and the development of a network of like-minded EMS professionals, this fellowship empowers participants to create a lasting change.

No prior mental health experience required—just a passion for supporting your team.

Apply now to become a champion for EMS mental health and wellness in New York State!

#### **Overview:**

- **Target Audience:** Open to EMS leaders and clinicians who are motivated to develop and lead mental health initiatives in their agencies. You do not need to have prior mental health and wellness experience.
- **Duration:** One year (starting with a three-day, in-person “kick-off” event in June 2026).
- **Structure:**
  - **Kick-off Event:** Fellowship Introduction and handoff (Sunday, June 7<sup>th</sup>). Mental Health Symposium (Monday, June 8<sup>th</sup>), Mental Health First Aid Training (Tuesday, June 9<sup>th</sup>).
  - **Foundational Training:** This training will provide the foundational knowledge necessary to be an effective resilience officer and help build or enhance their agency’s peer support program. These trainings are required as part of the program.
    - Training Dates:
      - Mental Health First Aid (Tuesday, June 9<sup>th</sup> – Part of “kick-off” event)
      - Science of Addiction and Recovery (Virtual – TBD)
      - Suicide Prevention Training (Virtual – TBD)
      - FBINAA Resilience Officer Training (Wednesday, July 22<sup>nd</sup>-Friday, July 24<sup>th</sup>)
  - **Hybrid In-Person/Virtual Program:**

- Over the 12 Months Fellowship, in addition to the training dates indicated, there will be 2-3 in-person program sessions, that will each be one-to-two days in lengths, with fellows.
  - Virtual meetings will occur during the months of the program that there are no in-person meetings. During the Virtual months, fellows should expect to attend a 2–3-hour online meeting and have an estimated 5-10 hours of project work which may be independent or as a group.
  - The program will give fellows an opportunity to network, solicit feedback, ensure ongoing support of their local programs, as well as address any challenges and ask questions from subject matter experts.
- **NOTE: In-person training and meetings will take place in the Albany, NY area. If you are unable to commit to travelling to the Capital Region several times throughout the year, including the required training dates indicated above, please do not apply for this fellowship.**

#### **Fellowship Program Goals:**

- Equip fellows with the knowledge to enhance or establish and manage effective mental health and wellness programs at their EMS agencies.
- Provide tools and resources to address burnout, trauma, and crisis situations.
- Create a network of mental health champions across New York State to share ideas and collaborate.
- Develop best practices that other agencies can use statewide.

#### **Why Apply?**

- Be part of a statewide initiative to advance mental health and well-being of EMS providers.
- The program is free to all selected fellows and covers certain travel expenses for in person meetings.
- Boost local awareness and gain statewide recognition as part of the fellowship program.

#### **Nomination Process (Please Read Carefully):**

- EMS providers can apply directly, or an EMS agency / leader can nominate a provider.
- EMS providers and / or EMS agencies should provide all the following to be considered for the fellowship program:
  - The nominee’s resume outlining their education and EMS experience.
  - A minimum of one-page (maximum of two-page) narrative on why they believe they should be chosen to participate in the fellowship program. This should include at least the following:
    - What drew you to the EMS profession?
    - Tell us about a challenging event you have had in your life (does not need to be directly related to your EMS career).
    - Tell us about a positive experience you have had during your EMS career.

- Tell us about mental health and wellness support for EMS, that currently exists in your agency, county and/or region?
    - How do you envision this program helping you, your peers and your agency?
  - Letter of commitment from the nominee's EMS Agency leadership which should also express the desire and willingness to establish or enhance an EMS Resiliency Officer / Peer Support Program within that agency.
- Since the goal of the fellowship program is to establish mental health and wellness initiatives within EMS agencies, unaffiliated providers will not be eligible for the program.
- Nominees who are chosen for the fellowship will be reimbursed for lodging, meals and ground transportation, at the current GSA rate, for the location, at the time of travel.
  - Fellows will need the ability to obtain a Vendor ID and be registered with the Statewide Financial System (SFS) to receive reimbursement.
  - If an agency sponsors a nominee's costs upfront, the agency may apply for reimbursement. The agency will also be required to obtain a Vendor ID and be registered in SFS (if they have not already done so).
- A Total of 21 nominees will be selected to participate in the Fellowship. Those candidates will be represented as follows:
  - One (1) from each of the 18 New York State Regional Councils (REMSCO)
    - NOTE: If applications are not received from all 18 regions, the balance of the remaining candidates allotted to the REMSCO will be appointed by the Division of State EMS Director, from all applications received.
  - One (1) from the Fire Department of the City of New York EMS Bureau (FDNY-EMS)
  - Two (2) appointed by the Division of State EMS Director
- Nominees will be selected for participation by an independent panel, using a standardized scoring tool based on their responses to the questions in their narrative and the completeness of their application.
- NOTE: Submissions will be sent to the Regional EMS Councils for awareness of the candidates applying in their region. Nominees may seek, and regions may provide an additional letter of support for the applicant, which will be considered as part of the overall application package and scoring process. Regions may choose to provide one or several letters of support for applicants from their region. Those letters should be e-mailed directly to: **Stephen.Brucato@health.ny.gov**

#### **Deadlines:**

- Interested individuals should upload nominations to the following address: [2026 NYS EMS Mental Health Fellowship Submission Portal | Survey Builder](#), no later than **Monday, April 20, 2026**.
- Nominees will be notified of their selection to participate in the fellowship program by **Friday, May 1, 2026**.
- Individuals who cannot apply this year, may go online to the New York State Division of EMS Mental Health and Wellness web page for future announcements: [The Balance of Mental Health and Well Being for all EMS Providers](#)