



2026 IAEM Graduate Student Scholarship Application Checklist

In addition to submitting the formal application by answering questions online, **all** documentation listed below must be provided to the Scholarship Commission for the application file to be complete. **Be sure to follow the submission requirements in the Scholarship Application Instructions.** Student applicants are responsible for ensuring that the Scholarship Program receives all required documentation by the **deadline of 5:00 p.m. EDT, May 31, 2026.**

- Student verification from the University Registrar.
- Official transcript (must be emailed to dawn@iaem.com by the Registrar, or a secure link to download the document provided to dawn@iaem.com).
- At least three reference letters - **one reference must be from a university faculty member.**
- Two essays responding to the questions below. **Be sure to follow the instructions for submitting the essays in the Application Instructions.**
 1. Emergency management is still a relatively new profession, and there are communities across the globe that are in the process of establishing their own emergency management programs. If you were hired as the first emergency manager for your community, how would you establish the program? What stakeholders would you involve, what outside support would you try to get, and what other steps would you take? Be sure to cite credible sources using a common, consistent formatting style (e.g., APA, MLA, or Chicago).
 2. Disaster studies have repeatedly challenged popular narratives about human behavior in crises, including myths of mass panic, looting, and role abandonment (Tierney et al., 2006). Select one disaster myth and critically analyze it through the lens of disaster theory and empirical research. In your essay, address the following: (1) Explain the selected myth and evaluate the extent to which this myth is supported or contradicted by empirical and case study evidence across different disaster types, region, and social context; (2) Discuss the ethical and governance implications of your chosen myth during disaster response and recovery; and (3) Propose research informed policy or practice reforms that could mitigate the consequences of this myth in future disasters. Be sure to cite credible sources using a common, consistent formatting style (e.g., APA, MLA, or Chicago).
- List of Awards & Training Certificates (optional – **SEE INSTRUCTIONS FOR FORMAT**).