



NYC EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT COMMISSIONER FOR A DAY ESSAY CONTEST

About: All New York City high school students are invited to participate in the fourth annual NYC Emergency Management “Commissioner for a Day” essay contest. Entrants must submit an original essay and complete the application attached below. The NYC Emergency Management Commissioner will select the winner who will be invited to participate in the Commissioner for a Day ceremony.

Eligibility: The essay contest is open to all New York City high school students enrolled in grades 9-12 across all five boroughs.

Deadline: All entries must be submitted by February 14, 2024. All entries must be emailed to readyny@oem.nyc.gov with the subject line “Commissioner for a Day Essay Contest.” All submissions must include the application form signed by the student. If the student is under 18 years of age, the application form must be signed by the student’s parent/guardian.

Important Dates:

- **February 14, 2024:** All entries must be emailed by 11:59 p.m. on Saturday, **February 14, 2024.**
- **February 23, 2024:** Winners will be announced by 12:00 PM on Friday, **February 23, 2024.**
- **March 6, 2024:** The Commissioner for a Day ceremony’s date is **Wednesday, March 6, 2024.**

Criteria: Each submission will be evaluated based on:

- Response to the call of the question.
- Original ideas posed by the student.
- Creativity of the submission.
- Spelling and grammar.
- Adhering to all submission requirements.

Requirements: Students must create their own essay, between 500 to 1,000 words, addressing **ONE** of the following topics:

- *How would you encourage greater leadership from the local community to better prepare for an emergency event?*
- *What is the role New Yorkers can play in responding to emergency events? How would you engage your community to prepare for the unexpected?*
- *How can businesses play a role in preparing, responding, and recovering from local emergency events?*
- *How can emergency events and disasters from afar have an impact on the local community?*

Application Form and Contest Rules
IF STUDENT ENTRANT IS UNDER 18 YEARS OF AGE, TO BE READ AND SIGNED BY
PARENT/GUARDIAN OF ENTRANT

- 1) Only one entry per Entrant.
- 2) By entering and providing a contest submission to NYC Emergency Management (NYCEM) the Entrant grants to NYCEM and the City of New York an irrevocable, perpetual, and royalty-free right to use, reproduce, edit, display, transmit, prepare derivative works of, modify, publish, and otherwise make use of the submission in any and all media, whether now known or hereinafter created, throughout the world and for any purpose. Entrant represents and warrants that nothing contained in their submission infringes on any copyright, any rights of privacy or publicity of any person, or any other right of any third party, and that entrant has the right to grant any and all rights and licenses granted to the City of New York and NYCEM herein, including but not limited to, all necessary rights under copyright, free and clear of any claims or encumbrances.
- 3) The winner of the contest will be invited to attend the Commissioner for a Day ceremony at NYCEM headquarters, located at 165 Cadman Plaza East, Brooklyn, NY, 11201. If Entrant is under 18 years of age, Entrant's parent/guardian hereby grants permission to Entrant to attend the ceremony if Entrant is the winner of the contest.
- 4) Entrant, through submission to this contest, grants NYCEM the right to publish their name, borough of residence, photographs taken at the Commissioner for a Day ceremony, and the content of their submission on NYCEM's website and/or NYCEM's social media accounts. NYCEM reserves the right to reuse the content of the submission at any time and in any medium.
- 5) Entrant hereby agrees to hold the City of New York and NYCEM harmless from and against, and hereby waives any right to pursue any claims of any nature arising in connection with any use authorized under these Rules, of any contest submission.

Student Entrant Name: _____ Email: _____

Student Entrant Date of Birth: _____ Phone: _____

Student Entrant School: _____

Recommending Teacher: _____ Email: _____

Student Entrant Signature: _____ Date: _____

For Entrants under 18 years of Age:

I hereby state that I am the parent or guardian of the student entrant whose signature appears above. I am familiar with, consent, and agree on behalf of the student entrant, to the terms and provisions set forth in this application form.

Signature of Parent/Guardian

Printed Name

Date