



**ANNOUNCING
THE JOHN D. SOLOMON FELLOWSHIP FOR PUBLIC SERVICE FOR FALL 2012**

*****APPLICATIONS DUE: APRIL 1, 2012*****

The John D. Solomon Fellowship Program

The John D. Solomon Fund for Public Service was established by the family and friends of the late John D. Solomon, who was an accomplished journalist on homeland security and other public policy issues and who was devoted to public service. He was also an active member of his local Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) and a passionate advocate of emergency preparedness and resiliency. He originated “In Case of Emergency, Read Blog – A Citizen’s Eye View of Public Preparedness.” In recognition of his contributions to these areas, the New York City Office of Emergency Management (OEM) and Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) have each established annual awards in his name.

The John D. Solomon Fellowship Program is the first student fellowship in New York City government devoted specifically to emergency management. This Program provides the opportunity for graduate students in New York City universities to have a nine-month paid fellowship (approximately 20 hours per week) in an agency of New York City government that is charged with helping the City be prepared for all types of emergencies. Each fellow will receive a \$2,500 stipend, will be assigned an agency mentor, and will participate in special programs with other fellows.

Who’s Eligible

Graduate students who will be entering their second year in Fall 2012 and who are specializing in the following fields:

- Public Health
- Public Safety
- Communications
- Journalism
- Emergency Management
- Social Work
- Community Organizing

Selection Criteria

Fellows will work on projects that involve collaborating with many individuals in their own agencies, in other City agencies, with community organizations and New Yorkers. Therefore, in addition to academic achievement and prior work experience, the selection process will take the following into consideration:

- Fluency in using major social media platforms, especially for marketing and communications;

- First-hand knowledge of New York City's neighborhoods and its community based organizations;
- Experience writing for a wide audience;
- Experience in working collaboratively and communicating clearly;
- Commitment to New York City and serving the public;
- The ability to speak at least one foreign language (is desirable).

New York City Agencies Hosting John D. Solomon Fellows

The Program will place Fellows in one of the following agencies for the duration of the fellowship.

- **NYC Office of Emergency Management (OEM):** OEM is the main New York City agency charged with preparing and educating New Yorkers about emergencies and helping City, state and federal agencies coordinate their responses.
- **NYC Department of Health and Mental Hygiene (DOHMH):** With an annual budget of more than \$1.6 billion and more than 6,000 employees, DOHMH is one of the largest public health agencies in the world. It has critical responsibilities in any emergency that threatens the health of New Yorkers, from bioterrorism to viral epidemics.
- **NYC Department of the Aging (DFTA):** DFTA is responsible for protecting the health and safety of the City's 1.3 million older adults during times of emergency. How to reach low income, vulnerable elderly is a current focus of DFTA.
- **NYC Service:** Mayor Bloomberg created NYC Service in the spring of 2009 to drive volunteer activity to where New York City's needs are greatest. Among these is Emergency Preparedness. NYC Service nurtures volunteer activities that increase business, individual and household "readiness."
- **NYC Digital:** Mayor Bloomberg launched NYC Digital in 2011 to provide opportunities for New Yorkers to engage with City government digitally and for City government to engage with New Yorkers. It manages the City's four central digital media channels—Facebook, Foursquare, Tumblr and Twitter, which are key during emergencies.

Types of Projects that Fellows Might Work On

- Helping NYC Digital develop new initiatives that use digital media to send out emergency alerts;
- Working with the Department of Health to identify methods to improve the dissemination of public health information during emergencies;
- Working with NYC Service to create a program to identify and train volunteers to staff emergency coastal storm centers, supply distribution points and other centers;
- Providing evaluation support to emergency preparedness exercise and drills;
- Working with the Office of Emergency Management to coordinate community outreach efforts through NYC Citizen Corps Council, CERT (Community Emergency Response Teams), Ready New York, Partners in Preparedness and other programs;
- Working with OEM and DOHMH to integrate training of volunteers across programs in community resiliency and recovery;
- Working with OEM and other agencies to identify community resources that will be mapped into the CERT community mapping program;
- Supporting public health preparedness education and outreach.

Application Process

Applications are due April 1st. An online application is available at <http://www.fcny.org/fcny/core/jdsf/>. Please fill it out and upload your resume. Finalists will be notified by April 13th and interviews will be scheduled for the last week in April. A final decision will be made by May 11th.

Questions

Please contact Angela Cheng, program coordinator, at acheng@fcny.org or 212-925-6675.