

Hello everyone! My name is Kyle Lopez and I am running for the IAEM-USA Region 8 Secretary-Treasurer position.

If elected to office I would be honored to assist our Vice-President and President lead our six-state region. Specific goals that I would like to work on are as follows:

- 1) Increase regional membership
- 2) Increase member participation and collaboration opportunities
- 3) Increase the regional budget
- 4) Increase organizational value and the return on investment for our membership
- 5) Increase professional development opportunities for our regional members

I have been an active member in good standing with IAEM since August 2017. In February of 2018, I received the AEM® certification and in February of 2023 I recertified and upgraded to the CEM®. In March 2022, I volunteered for the IAEM Certification Exam Content Development Panel. I remain an active member on this panel and together the panel has done amazing work, with the contracted psychometrician, to modernize the certification exam question bank. This has greatly increased both the legitimacy and value of the exam and truly raised the bar for the AEM®/CEM® certification process. Furthermore, I have been an active member of the Bylaws Committee since July 2023 and have participated in the updates and modernization of the IAEM-USA Bylaws. I also joined the Awards & Recognition Committee in March of 2024. In addition to serving on these committees, I have authored several articles that have been published in the IAEM Bulletin and have provided mentorship to several aspiring emergency managers as they pursue their CEM®/AEM® certifications. I am a true supporter of IAEM's mission to promote emergency management across the globe and I look forward to continuing to serve to the organization. I am also a member of the National Emergency Management Association (NEMA), the Colorado Emergency Management Association (CEMA) and I hold the certification of Colorado-Certified Emergency Manager (CO-CEM) from CEMA.

Currently I work as an emergency management coordinator for Adams County, Colorado with experience in community preparedness, EOC operations, emergency planning, training and exercise development, and continuity of operations planning. Before coming to Adams County, I worked for the Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment (CDPHE) from February 2020 to February 2022 in the Office of Emergency Preparedness and Response (OEPR). For the majority of my time with CDPHE, I served in numerous capacities as a part of the State's COVID-19 Pandemic response. These capacities included establishing testing sites, alternate care sites, Strategic National Stockpile operations, continuity of operations implementation, serving as the supply unit leader for the Colorado Joint Vaccine Task Force, laboratory logistical support, cold-chain management development, serving as the medical logistics section chief for the monoclonal antibody (mAb) therapeutics branch, and other logistical efforts in coordination with State of Colorado Division of Homeland Security and Emergency Management (DHSEM) and the Colorado National Guard (CONG). For my work during COVID-19, I was awarded the Presidential Award from the Colorado Emergency Management Association (CEMA) on February 23, 2022.

I hold an undergraduate degree in political science with a minor in homeland security from Colorado State University-Pueblo. I also earned a Master of Public Administration (MPA) degree with an emphasis in emergency management from the University of Colorado-Denver. In 2022, I achieved FEMA's National Continuity Training Program Master Continuity Practitioner - Level II designation from FEMA's Emergency Management Institute (EMI). Most recently, I graduated from the Naval Postgraduate School Center for Homeland Defense and Security Emergence Program and graduated from EMI's National Emergency Management Basic Academy (NEMBA). In September of 2023, I earned FEMA's Advanced Professional Series (APS) certificate confirmed by EMI and issued via the State of Colorado Division of Homeland Security and Emergency Management (DHSEM).

Thank you very much for your time and consideration.

My Best,  
Kyle