



STATE OF NEW YORK | EXECUTIVE CHAMBER

ANDREW M. CUOMO | GOVERNOR

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GOVERNOR CUOMO ANNOUNCES APPLICATIONS OPEN FOR 2014-2016 EMPIRE STATE FELLOWS PROGRAM

Program Prepares New Generation of Policy-Makers to Lead New York State

Governor Andrew M. Cuomo today announced the opening of the application process for the third class of the Empire State Fellows. The prestigious program attracts exceptional and diverse talent from New York and around the country to serve in high-level positions in the administration. Since its inception in 2012, the two-year Program has begun preparing a new generation of policy-makers to help lead New York State government.

"New York forged its legacy as the Empire State by opening its doors to talent from around the globe, and providing them an environment in which to flourish," Governor Cuomo said. "The Empire State Fellows Program capitalizes on that ideal, raising the profile of public service and giving accomplished innovators and professionals the opportunity to become the public policy leaders of tomorrow. We look forward to another strong class of Fellows."

To apply to be an Empire State Fellow, candidates must email a cover letter, resume, personal statement, and two letters of recommendation to fellows@exec.ny.gov by Friday, April 4, 2014. For more information on the Empire State Fellows Program and the application process, go to http://www.dos.ny.gov/newnyleaders/fellows_app.html.

Candidates selected as Empire Fellows will be appointed to positions in the Executive Branch that match their skills and experience, and will work closely with senior administration officials to create transformative policy solutions to the complex challenges confronting our state. Empire Fellows will also engage in educational and professional development programming that prepares them to serve as effective and ethical government leaders.

Successful Empire State Fellows may continue serving New York State after completing the Program. Governor Cuomo recently appointed three Empire State Fellows to senior positions in his administration: Jennifer M. Gómez is now the New York State Assistant Secretary for Human Services and Information Technology, Nora K. Yates is now the Deputy Director of The Community, Opportunity, Reinvestment Initiative (CORe), and Kisha Santiago-Martinez is now an Assistant Commissioner at New York State Homes and Community Renewal.

"I am proud to have been part of this prestigious program and to have had the privilege of being appointed to a senior position in Governor Cuomo's administration," said Gómez (inaugural Empire State Fellows class of 2012-2014). "During the fellowship, I gained tremendous insight into policymaking from exceptional and talented leaders. It's exciting to continue working alongside them to improve the

lives of the people of New York State."

"I am honored to be part of the Empire State Fellows Program," stated Richard Lecky, member of the current 2013-2015 class. "The Program truly captures the essence of public service and allows me to use my professional and personal experience to bring a new perspective to state government. I encourage individuals who share this passion to help others to apply and become part of this special program."

The Empire State Fellows Program is part of Governor Cuomo's *NewNew* York Leaders initiative that recruits experienced professionals, college graduates and student interns to serve in State government. For more information, see www.newnyleaders.com.