



NEWS FROM THE OFFICE OF  
**ADAM J. BELLO**  
MONROE COUNTY EXECUTIVE

For Immediate Release

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## **COUNTY EXECUTIVE BELLO AND MONROE COMMUNITY COLLEGE CELEBRATE COURSE COMPLETION FOR NEARLY 100 FUTURE EMS PROFESSIONALS**

*New applicants can enroll at [monroecc.edu](https://monroecc.edu) for Spring 2026 term*

**BRIGHTON, NY** — Monroe County Executive Adam Bello today joined Monroe Community College (MCC) officials and regional EMS leaders to celebrate the nearly 100 students who have successfully completed their Emergency Medical Technician (EMT) courses at MCC—marking a major milestone in strengthening Monroe County’s emergency response workforce.

To recognize their achievement and the vital role EMS professionals play in protecting public health and safety, County Executive Bello proclaimed Tuesday, December 16, 2025 as EMS Appreciation Day in Monroe County.

“Today’s graduates represent the very best of Monroe County—people who step forward when others are in need,” **said County Executive Adam Bello**. “By investing in accessible, high-quality EMS training, we are not only building a stronger workforce, we are strengthening the safety and resilience of every neighborhood in our community.”

Nearly one-quarter of the students honored today received support through \$4.2 million in American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funding. The initiative—led by Pittsford Volunteer Ambulance in partnership with Monroe Community College, American Medical Response, and Monroe Ambulance—was designed to remove financial and logistical obstacles for individuals pursuing EMS careers.

The ARPA funding covers tuition, books, supplies, certification fees, and comprehensive wraparound supports including paid training time, transportation, child care, and academic assistance. The program actively recruits candidates from across Monroe County, with outreach in diverse and historically underrepresented communities.

“I’m proud to congratulate these graduates and thank them for choosing a profession of service,” **said Congressman Joe Morelle**. “This is a career that requires skill, heart, and selflessness. Your work will make a real difference in the lives of people across the region. Investments in programs like this help ensure our community has the people and expertise we need to stay safe, healthy, and prepared.”

The graduates' next step is to complete the New York State Certification Exam. Once certified, they will be eligible to join EMS agencies throughout the region—directly contributing to efforts to address the statewide shortage of emergency medical personnel.

“As communities across New York State work to strengthen ambulance service availability, our community is leading with innovation and commitment. By investing in our neighbors, we are building a sustainable, community-driven solution. The students we honor today exemplify the success of this approach and the meaningful impact of our investment. Our program is delivering real results—demonstrating that EMS is a rewarding profession people are eager to join, and a powerful pathway to making a difference in every community.” **said Jonathan Smith, Chief of Pittsford Volunteer Ambulance.**

MCC will launch its next cohort of EMT and Paramedic classes in the 2026 semester. Applications for the Spring 2026 EMT program are now open. The deadline to apply is January 4.

To learn more or submit an application, visit:

<https://www.monroecc.edu/depts/pstc/ems/mcc-arpa-grant-registration/> .



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