

## **A Student Perspective on the COEs**

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The START Fellowship program has helped me to achieve several educational and professional goals. As a START Fellow, I have been given a unique level of entrée to organizations to study communication and emergency management practice. I have used fellowship funds to arrange travel to conferences where I have served as both a presenter and participant. Attendance at these conferences has improved my research and provided valuable contacts. Additionally, START contacts within DHS have sponsored my attendance at government conferences and helped secure participants for research project activities. START's financial and professional support has enabled me to conduct specialized research that will, ideally, contribute to emergency management knowledge and practice in ways that support START's and DHS's goals.