

# Eric Blake

## Senior Hurricane Specialist National Hurricane Center

Eric Blake is a senior hurricane specialist at NOAA's National Hurricane Center (NHC) in Miami, Florida.

Blake received his Bachelor's Degree in Atmospheric Science from the University of Louisiana at Monroe (1998) and his Master's Degree in Atmospheric Sciences from Colorado State University (2001). His graduate studies were under the tutelage of Dr. William Gray, a renowned expert on tropical meteorology and hurricanes.

Blake began his career with NHC in 2000 as a student intern. He advanced to a full-time position in 2002 in the Tropical Analysis and Forecast Branch (TAFB). Blake became a hurricane specialist in 2006 and was promoted to senior hurricane specialist in 2020. The specialist position involves the issuance of track, intensity and wind radii forecasts as well as associated watches and warnings for tropical cyclones in the Atlantic and eastern Pacific oceans.

Blake performs post-season analyses of hurricanes and hurricane forecasts for the Atlantic and eastern Pacific basins, and recently was the lead author of the Hurricane Sandy and Harvey tropical cyclone reports.



Blake is an instructor for classes at NHC, including the FEMA, NWS and WMO courses, which help to educate partners on hurricane-related dangers. In addition, he is a frequent presenter and participant in meteorological meetings, including the National Hurricane Conference, to promote hurricane awareness and preparedness.

Blake specializes in medium- to long-range tropical cyclone forecasting and has received a Department of Commerce Bronze medal for this work. He helped create the 5-day Tropical Weather Outlook and is also a member of the NOAA seasonal hurricane forecast teams.

Blake is the program chair for the American Meteorological Society's 34<sup>th</sup> Hurricanes and Tropical Meteorology Conference. He serves on the NHC Tropical Cyclone Best Track Change Committee, which considers proposals to change the hurricane record, important for long-term studies of climate. He has authored numerous scientific articles on hurricanes and is also the lead author for the book *Eastern North Pacific Tropical Cyclones, 1949-2006*.

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