

Lixion Avila, Ph.D.

Senior Hurricane Specialist National Hurricane Center

Lixion A. Avila, Ph.D., is a senior hurricane specialist at NOAA's National Hurricane Center in Miami, Florida.

Dr. Avila received his Bachelor of Science degree in Meteorology from the University of Havana (1973) and his Master of Science and Doctorate degrees in Atmospheric Science from the University of Miami (1983, 1993).

Dr. Avila began his professional career in 1973 as a meteorologist with the Cuban Weather Service, providing hurricane forecast and warning information. He was a consultant to the National Hurricane Center from 1983 to 1987, providing warning information in Spanish for the radio and television press. He joined the National Hurricane Center as a meteorologist in 1987, and became a hurricane specialist in 1989. The 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 North Pacific Oceans.



Dr. Avila was awarded the National Hurricane Conference Outstanding Achievement Award (1999), the NOAA Administrator's Award for Public Education (2000), the Bronze Medal Unit Award for Superior Federal Service (2000), and the National Weather Service Isaac M. Cline National Award for Outreach (2005). He is a Fellow with the American Meteorological Society. Dr. Avila has been nominated twice for an Emmy Award for his participation in a hurricane preparedness television program.

Dr. Avila represents the National Hurricane Center in the World Meteorological Organization and is heavily involved in coordinating vital hurricane information and training to that organization in the Caribbean and Central America. He has served as session chairman for the American Meteorological Society Tropical Meteorology Committee.

