

Emergency and Disaster Management

Associate in Applied Science Degree

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Emergencies take the form of accidents, hazardous materials spills, fire, floods, tornadoes, hurricanes, terrorism, earthquakes and virtually any other event that may injure people, damage the environment, or destroy property.

As a professional in this field, you may coordinate disaster response or crisis management activities, provide disaster preparedness training and prepare emergency plans and procedures for natural, wartime, or technological disasters or hostage situations.

This program is intended to prepare—or meet the occupation requirements of—men and women who fulfill emergency management roles at the local, state and federal levels.

A full-time student may complete this 61-63 credit-hour program in two years. Part-time options for completion are offered, as well. Classes are offered during the fall, spring and summer semesters.

Career Opportunities

The field of emergency management offers a variety of career choices that include planning and prevention, emergency response, communication, response and recovery, disaster assistance and public education.

Career opportunities available to graduates of this program may include positions as emergency management specialist, emergency response specialist, preparation and recovery specialist, hazardous materials specialist, emergency planners and policy analyst, emergency managers, emergency operations director, environmental compliance planner, fire fighter, law enforcement personnel and emergency disaster coordinator.

Individuals employed in these careers can prepare for—or control and evaluate—emergencies and disasters that occur as a result of a man-made incident or by an act of nature. Opportunities are available at the local, state, county and federal levels.

For a complete overview to all related positions and job market and salary trends, please consult the **Occupational Outlook Handbook**: <http://www.bls.gov/OCO/>



Program Outcomes

Students who successfully complete this program will be able to:

- evaluate and analyze simple and complex, natural and man-made disasters.
- collaborate with other officials in order to prepare and analyze damage assessment following a disaster incident.
- conduct surveys to determine the types of emergency-related needs in local disaster planning.
- coordinate disaster response or crisis management activities, such as ordering evacuations and open shelters.
- direct emergency response teams and provide on-site investigations.
- develop and perform tests and evaluations of emergency management plans in accordance with state and federal regulations.
- administer public emergency recovery programs.
- design and administer emergency/disaster training programs to the general public.
- understand federal, state, county and local regulations and details that affect emergency response and disaster control.
- inspect facilities and equipment, such as emergency response centers and communications equipment for readiness.

Did You Know?

Environmental and natural disasters have claimed the lives of thousands of people in the United States, wiped out entire cities and towns and destroyed precious historical and genealogical documents. If your family lived in Texas, Florida, Louisiana, Pennsylvania, New England, California, Georgia, South Carolina, Missouri, Illinois or Indiana, then your family history may have been changed forever by one of the 10 deadliest U.S. disasters. (http://genealogy.about.com/od/historic_disasters/tp/deadliest_us.htm).

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Every effort has been made to ensure the accuracy of the information in this publication. However, the information is subject to change without notice and final career decisions are the responsibility of the student.

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