

# ASSOCIATE OF APPLIED SCIENCE IN FIRE SCIENCE

SCHOOL OF CRIMINAL JUSTICE



## ADVANCE YOUR CAREER WITH AN ASSOCIATE'S DEGREE IN FIRE SCIENCE

You could use your talent and drive to advance your career, while you serve the public.<sup>1</sup> Kaplan University's fire science programs could help you pursue your goals. An associate's degree in fire science is designed to provide knowledge in interagency coordination, fire incident command, arson investigation, and life safety education—skills that are sought by today's fire departments. And, Kaplan University's online classes offer the flexibility that fire service professionals want, along with the state-of-the-art learning you may need for advancement in the industry.

### WHAT'S INSIDE:

- ▶ Career Outcomes
- ▶ Curriculum Highlights
- ▶ Kaplan University Overview

To enroll, call your Admissions Advisor today. For more information, visit [studentcenter.kaplan.edu](http://studentcenter.kaplan.edu)

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**KAPLAN  
UNIVERSITY**

## THE DEMAND FOR EDUCATED FIREFIGHTERS HAS NEVER BEEN GREATER

With continuing changes in the industry and the economy, fire departments look for firefighters familiar with the latest techniques and equipment. Many of these fire departments may also prefer candidates with an associate's degree or higher, ideally in fire science or a related field. Some could even require these degrees in order to consider an individual for promotion.<sup>2</sup> And, with a rapidly changing public safety environment and advancing technology, the need for well-educated professionals is growing. Careers targeted by Kaplan University's fire science program are projected to grow faster than the national average, increasing by 17 percent between 2008 and 2018.<sup>2</sup> A degree from Kaplan University could help prepare you to fill one of those positions.<sup>1</sup>



## MOVE FORWARD WITH A FIRE SCIENCE DEGREE

An associate's degree in fire science could help you pursue your goals, whether you are a current fire service professional looking to advance to a higher position or aspiring to join the fire service field. Graduates have the potential to advance through the fire department chain of command, from firefighter to driver/operator, lieutenant or captain, battalion chief, deputy chief, assistant chief, and even fire chief.<sup>1</sup> Some of these positions may require a bachelor's degree in fire science, public administration, or a related field.<sup>2</sup> If this is one of your goals, the credits from an associate's degree can often be applied as a foundation to earn a higher degree.<sup>3</sup>

Graduates of the associate's degree program could pursue a career in any of these environments:

- Fire stations/departments
- Police departments
- National parks and forests
- Private industry fields such as insurance companies

### DAY-TO-DAY ACTIVITIES WILL VARY, BUT THESE ARE SOME POSSIBLE TASKS THAT GRADUATES COULD PERFORM, LISTED BY OCCUPATION:<sup>1</sup>

- **Firefighter**—Respond to emergency calls of all types, including fires, motor vehicle accidents, and emergency rescue operations. Fight fires and provide other emergency and life-saving assistance as needed.
- **Forest fire inspector and prevention specialist**—Monitor for and fight forest fires in national forests and parks. Participate in fire prevention, including ensuring that park visitors follow fire safety precautions and rules.
- **Fire inspector**—Examine the interior and exterior of buildings and structures for fire hazards. Ensure that fire codes are followed by builders or owners, and that fire safety equipment is operable, maintained, and inspected.
- **Sales**—Sell and install fire protection and prevention equipment.

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# OUR COURSES COULD HELP PUT YOUR TALENT TO WORK

As a leader in fire service education, our training division, Kaplan's School of Professional and Continuing Education, provides firefighters and emergency medical services (EMS) personnel the continuing education needed to maintain certifications and licensures, partnering with the International Association of Firefighters (IAFF) and the International Fire Service Training Association (IFSTA). And now, Kaplan University's fire science curriculum offers entry-level fire service professionals a chance to expand their knowledge base in the fire service field through the pursuit of a higher education degree. Closely based on the Fire and Emergency Services Higher Education (FESHE) national curriculum model, Kaplan University's associate's degree program is designed to provide students with a broad understanding of fire science, including fire protection, prevention, and an introduction to state-of-the-art technology.

## This specialized curriculum is designed to teach students the following:

- How building construction impacts firefighter safety, building codes, and fire prevention
- The behavior of fire, including testing procedures used to determine fire resistance and flame spread
- Firefighting strategy and tactics, including fire defense planning and the use of computer technology
- Components of fire investigation and analysis, including fire dynamics, flame spread, and incident investigation, plus the technical, legal, and social aspects of arson
- Analytical approaches to fire protection and investigation, such as scientific methods of inquiry and reasoning
- The psychological effects of fire dynamics

## Program Detail

### Associate of Applied Science in Fire Science

Credit Hours: 90



## HERE ARE WHAT TWO INDUSTRY EXPERTS HAVE TO SAY

### Derrick Clouston<sup>4</sup>

- Kaplan University Program Developer and Field Service Supervisor, North Carolina Department of Insurance, Office of State Fire Marshal, Raleigh, NC

### Jake Rhoades<sup>4</sup>

- Assistant Fire Chief

“The Kaplan University Associate of Applied Science in Fire Science is an excellent opportunity to engage in learning with fellow professionals and creates an atmosphere by which you can excel both personally and professionally.”

“The fire service [industry] has been experiencing rapid changes, and the duties and responsibilities placed upon the individuals within each department must adapt and evolve to meet these new challenges. Formal education is critical to individual and departmental success in the future. A degree from Kaplan University could provide the formal education that an individual can immediately put to use in his/her department for the service of their community.”

# KAPLAN UNIVERSITY—A DIFFERENT SCHOOL OF THOUGHT<sup>®</sup>

## THE KAPLAN COMMITMENT<sup>SM</sup>—EXPERIENCE KAPLAN UNIVERSITY WITH NO TUITION OBLIGATION.

At Kaplan University, we are committed to your education, your goals—you. And, as part of our pledge to help you succeed, we're announcing a whole new way to try a Kaplan University degree program for yourself with no tuition obligation.

It's simple. You'll attend real classes for real credits. After an introductory period, if you decide we're right for you, and you meet our academic standards and other requirements, you'll continue on. If not, your obligation ends there. There's no tuition cost or other financial obligation, except for the nonrefundable application fee.<sup>5</sup>

## WHY KAPLAN UNIVERSITY?

Our programs are designed to offer you the freedom to grow and pursue your goals. We offer:

- Online classes that allow you to study virtually anytime, anywhere you have an Internet connection.
- Personal Advisors to help you select the courses to meet your goals.
- Reduced tuition rates for active-duty service members and veterans.
- Scholarships for eligible Kaplan University students.
- A portfolio development course that could help translate your work and life experiences into college credit.<sup>6</sup>

## Other Programs

### Kaplan University:

- › Bachelor of Science in Fire and Emergency Management
- › Bachelor of Science in Fire Science

### Kaplan's School of Professional and Continuing Education:

- › EMS Training
- › Firefighter/OSHA Training

#### IMPORTANT INFORMATION—PLEASE READ

<sup>1</sup> Kaplan University's programs are designed to prepare graduates to pursue employment in fields related to their subjects of study, such as the positions provided as examples. However, Kaplan University does not guarantee that graduates will be placed in any job, equipped to perform all the tasks noted, or eligible for job advancement opportunities. Additional training or certification may be required. In addition, job titles and responsibilities may vary from organization to organization.

<sup>2</sup> Source: Bureau of Labor Statistics, U.S. Department of Labor, Occupational Outlook Handbook, 2010-11 Edition, Fire Fighters, on the Internet at <http://www.bls.gov/oco/ocos158.htm>. These employment projections are provided for informational purposes only. Long-term projections are not intended to predict short-term changes in employment demand due to the current economy.

<sup>3</sup> While the program is designed to prepare graduates to pursue continued bachelor's- and graduate-level education, the University cannot guarantee that students will be granted admission to any bachelor's- or graduate-level programs.

<sup>4</sup> Views and opinions stated herein are the individual's and not necessarily those of Kaplan University. This testimonial was solicited by Kaplan University.

<sup>5</sup> Classes will count toward a student's degree if satisfactorily completed. No credits are earned if the student withdraws during the introductory period. The introductory period is five weeks, and begins on day one of the student's first academic term. If at any point during the introductory period a student chooses to opt out, he or she will have no other obligation to the University except for the application fee. Only available to new students; continuing students are not eligible.

<sup>6</sup> Kaplan University does not guarantee the transferability of credit. See University Catalog for Prior Learning Assessment Policy.

### Note From Dean

"Kaplan University's School of Criminal Justice offers students cutting-edge courses in the growing field of public protective services. Degrees in fire science as well as fire and emergency management provide knowledge in modern technologies and practices. Our courses, based on the approved National Fire Academy curriculum, are designed to prepare students for entry into or advancement in fire or emergency service."



Frank DiMarino, Dean  
School of Criminal Justice



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