

# BACHELOR OF SCIENCE IN FIRE AND EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT

SCHOOL OF CRIMINAL JUSTICE



## A DEGREE THAT COULD HELP YOU LEAD

As a current or aspiring fire service or EMS professional, you are a natural leader. And, a bachelor's degree from Kaplan University could help you gain the knowledge to pursue the leadership positions you want.<sup>1</sup> Kaplan University's degree program is closely based on the Fire and Emergency Services Higher Education (FESHE) curriculum model. Using this model, students have the opportunity to study the management and administrative practices of the industry. Additionally, Kaplan University's flexible online schedules allow industry professionals to study at any time—day or night—and user-friendly technology helps students navigate at their own pace.

## 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**

## EDUCATED FIRE SERVICE MANAGERS ARE IN DEMAND

Increasingly, first responders are expected to have strong professional credentials. In the fire service industry, chiefs, mid-level officers, and other emergency management personnel may be required to hold a bachelor's degree.<sup>2</sup> This has created a rise in demand for educated fire and emergency managers. In fact, careers targeted by Kaplan University's fire and emergency management degree programs are expected to grow faster than the national average from 2008 through 2018, with some occupations possibly growing by as much as 19 percent.<sup>2</sup> This translates to approximately 62,000 new jobs that could be available to knowledgeable professionals.<sup>2</sup>



## YOU COULD MOVE INTO MANAGEMENT WITH A BACHELOR'S DEGREE

A Bachelor of Science in Fire and Emergency Management could help open the doors to a variety of leadership roles in the fire service industry.<sup>1</sup> These management-level positions may be available to only those with a bachelor's degree.<sup>2</sup> If you are pursuing other positions, a degree could help you stand out among prospective candidates—an edge that is increasingly important in the current economy.

Graduates of the fire and emergency management program could pursue a career in these areas:

- City emergency program management
- City emergency planning
- Risk management
- Fire department (in a management role)

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

- **Emergency management—program manager/director:** Lead cities through comprehensive emergency planning and management. Assist in response to and recovery from natural, man-made, and accidental incidents.
- **Emergency management—planner:** Provide emergency planning and coordination in a city environment while preserving life, resolving incidents, limiting loss, and conserving property. Ensure the continuity of city operations and government during an emergency.
- **Risk management:** Manage life safety service activities including planning and directing safety compliance and training programs and coordinating inspections. Manage staff, including environmental health and safety specialists, and fire alarm security technicians.
- **Fire department chief or manager:** Respond to emergency calls of all types, including structural fires, car crashes, and emergency rescue operations. Manage department staff during these and other situations. Fight fires and provide emergency, life-saving assistance as needed.

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# PROGRAMS DESIGNED FOR LEADERSHIP

As a leader in fire service education, our training division, Kaplan 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 and emergency management program offers aspiring and current industry professionals a chance to enhance their knowledge of the field through the pursuit of a higher education degree. Our curriculum closely follows the FESHE national curriculum model, developed by and for emergency services personnel. Kaplan University's bachelor's degree program is designed to provide first responders with a broad range of administrative and managerial knowledge, while preparing them for new challenges in the areas of human resources, technology, and fiscal responsibility.

**Over the course of the curriculum, students will have the opportunity to study:**

- Operational procedures at departmental, interagency, and city/district levels
- Human resource management, including personnel policies
- Fiscal responsibility, time management, and communication strategies in preparation for leadership roles
- Current information regarding fire and emergency services technology
- Occupational and life safety awareness
- Ethical and legal aspects of fire and emergency services

## Program Detail

**Bachelor of Science in Fire and Emergency Management**

**Credit Hours: 180**

### Accelerated Master's Degree Option for Bachelor's Degree Students

Eligible students in this bachelor's degree program who want to continue on to pursue a master's degree within the School of Criminal Justice or School of Legal Studies may be interested in the accelerated master's degree option. Students complete graduate-level courses within this undergraduate plan of study. Once accepted to the master's degree program, students transfer in the graduate courses and matriculate into a shortened degree plan. This accelerated option allows students to complete both their bachelor's degree and master's degree in less time and at a lower cost than completing both programs separately. Speak to an Academic Advisor for more details upon enrollment in this bachelor's degree program.



## HERE IS WHAT ONE INDUSTRY EXPERT HAD TO SAY

**Jake Rhoades<sup>3</sup>**

• Assistant Fire Chief

“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>4</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>5</sup>

## Other Programs

### Kaplan University:

- › Bachelor of Science in Fire Science
- › Master of Science in Homeland Security and Emergency Management

### Kaplan Professional and Continuing Education:

- › EMS Training
- › Firefighter/OSHA Training

## 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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## 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, Firefighters, on the Internet at [www.bls.gov/oco/ocos329.htm](http://www.bls.gov/oco/ocos329.htm) and ONetOnLine, Occupational Information Network, on the Internet at [online.onetcenter.org/link/summary/13-1061.00](http://online.onetcenter.org/link/summary/13-1061.00). 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> Views and opinions stated herein are the individual's and not necessarily those of Kaplan University. Individual student schedules and experiences may vary. This testimonial was solicited by Kaplan University.

<sup>4</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>5</sup> Kaplan University does not guarantee the transferability of credit. See University Catalog for Prior Learning Assessment Policy.