Homeland Security and Emergency Management

Answering the call to prepare and protect

Whether you enjoy being on the front lines or you excel behind the scenes, a Homeland Security and Emergency Management degree from Idaho State University will help you develop critical thinking skills and learn the foundational requirements you need to become a leader in your chosen career – with practical applications in dozens of fields.

First responders need extensive knowledge and the ability to make a positive impact on the situation around them. Disaster planners, information analysts, and recovery managers need to analyze risks and take charge in complex and chaotic situations. Even those already working in related fields can leverage their education to help them succeed and excel. This degree hones your capabilities and decision-making skills to translate knowledge into action.

Program options and career information:

Program Options
Classes are online, and the program is offered as a major, minor, or secondary discipline.

Potential Career Paths
- 911 operator
- debris management coordinator
- cyber security specialist
- community health liaison
- emergency planner
- school resource officer
- decontamination specialist
- risk manager
- counterterrorism agent
- training and exercise officer
- incident commander
- information security analysts
- operations research analysts
- crisis communications/public affairs
- strategic and policy advisor

Job Prospects*
According to the Bureau of Labor Statistics the job outlook for managers will grow approximately 6% through 2024. Federal level program managers are employed throughout many agencies with a salary range of $103,842 – $143,796.

Sample Courses

**Cyber Security:**
Explore online security threats, including types of threats, theft of intellectual property, and infrastructure disruption, as well as policy issues that put cyber activity into the criminal realm.

**Policies, Civil Rights, and Administration**
Examine the American political system, civil rights issues, and ideologies that influence morals, government roles and policies to keep order.

**Roots of Terrorism:**
Study the relationship between war and terrorism, terror as a communication tool, and the outcomes of terrorism.

**Public Health Emergencies**
Examine the requirements of a public health workforce and how they integrate into emergency support functions and lead agencies within a public health crisis.

Real World Experience
During their practicum experience, students exercise their analytic and critical thinking skills to assist local government agencies, nonprofit organizations and private sector businesses to analyze a threat or hazard that could disrupt operations, and then recommend a solution.

This project creates a strong portfolio piece for graduates when seeking employment or advancement opportunities.

Protect Your Community with a career that Makes a Difference

Laurie J. Holien, HSEM Director and Associate Professor
laurieholien@isu.edu | (208) 373-1761
isu.edu/esd/hsem