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## Operations management degree requirements

Last Updated: February 11, 2019 Emergency Rescue and Disaster Recovery are growing career areas. The demand for qualified, skilled and trained professionals with bachelor's and master's degrees in emergency management, disaster relief, homeland security, and public safety promises to only grow in the coming years. With online colleges offering increasingly accessible pathways to these degrees, the opportunity to build a career protect and save lives has never been greater. Whether you want to work for a private, non-profit, local, state or federal emergency management group, there are quite a few ways to make it happen. Why the positive outlook? It's because of some pretty bleak things. But stick with me. There's good news coming. First is the ugly truth: Global climate change is a real thing, and the results are both a significant increase in the number of natural disasters occurring and a near certainty that this increase will only continue to increase in the future. Global tensions have contributed to an increase in so-called terrorist attacks with soft targets. The increase in active shooter situations in the United States is epidemic in nature. Add further to these dangers of a decaying civilian infrastructure, the risk of pandemic health events, our vulnerability to cyberattacks, the increasing incidence of ecological disasters and a host of other scary things that keep people awake at night. In other words, if you want to pitch onto the emergency management front, we can use your help. If you're looking for a way to help right now and in the future, emergency management and public safety are important areas. And with each year that passes, the demand for managers and qualified professionals promises only to grow. If you're interested in a degree in emergency management, jump right into our look at the best schools in the field: If you'd like to learn more about degrees, career, opportunities and responsibilities around emergency management, read on. Watch our interview with Emergency Services Expert, Ronald Wakeham Ronald Wakeham is the Department Chair of Security and Emergency Services at Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University. From 1996 to 2016, he was a course developer and contract member for the Department of Homeland Security. Ronald also serves as haz-mat consultant and director of The Seminole Tribe of Florida, Emergency Services Department. The single biggest threat we face as a nation and as a species is global climate change. This is the most observable, predictable and empirically proven cause of the increasing frequency and severity of natural disasters, making it among the most pressing concerns for emergency management professionals - if not the top concern. According to an article in The Economist, the U.N. disaster monitoring system identifies natural disasters such as events like earthquakes, storms, floods and heatwaves that: cause at least ten deaths impact more than 100 people are in need of a national emergency According to these qualifications, the number of natural disasters worldwide has more than quadrupled since 1970, with around 400 such incidents each year. Less widespread, but nonetheless, there has also been an increase in fatal weather and climate-related events, with more than six times as many hydrological events today than in 1980. 2017 marked the highest number of such events ever seen. There is a strong consensus in the scientific community that this is a consequence of climate change produced by human behavior. [If you're interested in learning more about the discussion around Global Climate Change, check out our look at top climate scientists talking and/or opining on the topic today.] While the outlook for our planet and our way of life is alarming - to say the least - there is a glimmer of good news here. In fact, we have become better at mitigating the effects of natural disasters. While we see more of these disasters every year, the number of human casualties as a result of such events has actually decreased. According to The Economist, in 1970, an estimated 200,000 people were killed by natural disasters. The International Association of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC) reports that while the number of victims in the last decade has varied dramatically (with a high of 297,728 deaths in 2010 and a low of 22,452 disaster-related deaths in 2014), the average for the decade ending in 2014 was just under 100,000 deaths a year. The Economist credits the reduced losses to improved building strategies, better flood prevention schemes and other evolving safety measures. This is where the professionals working in emergency management come in today. According to The Economist, the immediate future is a more frequent and serious natural event. This will create a greater need for preparation and planning from urban planners and others managing civil infrastructure. This suggests that demand for individuals in all aspects of disaster relief and disaster management will only grow in the coming years. The Bureau of Labor Statistics projects that the area is likely to grow by 8% through 2026. However, the somewhat unpredictable increase in natural disasters suggests that the rate of growth may be faster and larger than expected. In its report on careers in disaster relief, the BLS points out that between 1990 and 2017, the size of the

disaster relief workforce has more than doubled from 66,800 professionals to more than 168,000. There are many avenues into the area of disaster management, including local law enforcement groups, first responders, federal agencies, and a host of state and local groups and organizations with a stake in the preparation, management and recovery from disasters and emergencies. In addition to natural disasters, a career in disaster management means that there is in case of terrorist attacks, live shooter situations, technical disasters, and even cyberattacks. With a minimum of a bachelor's degree in a related field, you can qualify as an Emergency Management Director. In 2017, the median wage for this position was \$72,760 a year, or about \$34.98 an hour. In this role, you will oversee the planning and development of procedures for responding to natural disasters and emergencies. You will also lead the way in real time, including response, recovery and the high level of coordination with government employees, agencies and organizations that go into these processes. The title of Emergency Management Director could qualify you to work in a variety of settings, including for non-profit disaster relief groups, private companies specializing in recovery contracts, or any number of local, state or federal agencies. For example, according to BLS, among the federal agencies involved in coordinating disaster relief services are the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) and the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers. According to the U.S. Office of Personnel Management, these agencies employed 34,070 and 17,730 employees respectively in 2017. Other leader titles may include Emergency Management Specialist, Floodplain Management Specialist or Specialist in technology hazard program. If you are interested in becoming a leading role in emergency management or public safety, check out the following degrees: There are many dimensions for emergency management. One of the most important elements of effective disaster preparation, management and assistance is coordination. A wide range of doctors, public safety officials, non-profit groups, private companies, citizens and government agencies must all have an interest in carrying out big plans such as evacuations, rescue operations, infrastructural restoration, or massive cleanup efforts. Professionals on various fronts will participate directly in the four major stages of disaster management: Emergency Response Prevention Disaster Management Preparedness and Response includes: establishment of contingency plans participating in exercises that coordinate contingency plan logistics engage in lifesaving efforts coordinating evacuation providing humanitarian support administration of resources such as food, medical care, and shelters protecting property, securing infrastructure, and restoring power recovery and prevention efforts may include : restoration of basic services support to restore basic economic functionality helping victims ensure funding meets repair contracts rebuild communities putting new evidence-based preventive measures in place to mitigate the effects of future disasters spreading education to the public on preparing for future events There are various other career paths that can allow you to support disaster management efforts. In fact, there are many equally crucial for disaster and emergency management. Homeland Security The various agencies and agencies that make up the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) also offer many avenues to support preparation, coordination, response and relief in the face of natural disasters, terrorist attacks and other public security crises. Among these is the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA), which joined DHS at its inception in 2002. One of the following degrees could qualify you to work for FEMA or another correlated agency in the Department of Homeland Security. One of these degrees can also qualify you for a role in the Office of Emergency Management, which is part of the Interior Department. Criminal justice Other ways to support disaster relief may include frontline law enforcement work. Officers and departments must be prepared at all times to confront emergencies large and small. In the event of a major natural disaster or a catastrophic terrorist attack, a well-trained police force with close links to society will play an important role in preparedness and recovery. Learn more about earning a degree or advancing your career in the Criminal Justice Military/National Guard Service Another way to get into the field may be through the military. The various branches of the U.S. military offer their own paths to coordinate relief, disaster relief and recovery. You may be able to both train for, and receive a college education in the various facets of emergency management and coordination, either as a member of the U.S. Armed Forces or as a member of the National Guard. Service time may make you eligible for the GI Bill™, which could provide funding for the degree program of your choice. By combining your military training with an education that focuses on any of the dimensions described here above, you can position yourself to take on a leading role in critical relief and disaster management efforts. Check out a few of these resources: The military offers a different path if you're interested in emergency management. The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers is an agency made up mainly of civilians who, according to the Corps, make a direct contribution to war fighters and their families, support overseas contingency operations, develop technology and systems that save the lives of soldiers and civilians, provide disaster relief and protect and improve the environment and the national economy. If this is a path you are interested in taking, you can check out the following resources at our Military Education HQ: You can also visit the Army Corps of Engineers recruitment page to learn more. To check out other support resources and links to military service members, national guard, and veterans, please visit our Military Education Headquarters. Other degrees Other ways to provide support in an emergency or disaster May include a career as Haz-Mat Manager, Public Health Officer, Hospital Emergency Preparedness Administrator, Civil Engineer, Public Information Communications Officer, Fire Inspector/Investigator, and a host of other critical civilian, infrastructural, and security positions. Check out these correlated degrees to learn more about providing support in the face of a disaster or emergency: ⚡ We admit disaster management and disaster relief are pretty heavy topics. Many of the courses outlined above are rigorous in necessity. Real-world emergency management is a high-pressure scenario. This requires great organisation, flexibility, coordination, compassion and work knowledge. Life is at stake, which means your work is incredibly important. But that doesn't mean we can't enjoy a little gallows humor. In that spirit, we invite you to check out: out:

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