

# BEST ONLINE PROGRAMS **BACHELOR'S IN EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT** ACADEMIC PROGRAMS

## Best School Ranking

The field of emergency management concentrates on effective strategies for reducing threats to the public and responding with relief efforts when catastrophic events occur. A bachelor's degree in emergency management prepares students to mitigate disasters through collaborative work with government agencies and private organizations.



Many schools offer online bachelor's degrees in emergency management. These programs are usually 'blended', meaning they combine web-based coursework and on-site practicum sessions; students access lectures online and submit most assignments via email, but courses that involve physical demonstrations (such as [safety and fire drills](#)) may require on-campus study. Specializations may be available in certain areas of emergency management, such as [cyber security](#). Some graduates go on to obtain a Master of Science in emergency management degree, or even a Ph.D in the subject depending on their final career goals. Graduate-level education, however, is not necessary to get started in the field.

Below, you'll find our list of the country's best online bachelor's degree programs in the field of emergency management. Each school is ranked on the merits of its academic strengths, learning goals, positive student outcomes, course offerings and online classroom experience. If the field of emergency management interests you, this comprehensive list will serve as a useful resource in your search for a suitable online bachelor's program.

[2016 Online Education Trends Report](#): Learn how online programs are changing the face of higher education.

### 1. RANK

  
**UPPER IOWA**  
UNIVERSITY  
Upper Iowa University  
Fayette, IA  
\$24,400 annually

#### **SCHOOL PROFILE**

##### ADDRESS

605 Washington St  
Fayette, IA 52142-1857  
(563) 425-5200

Upper Iowa's [emergency and disaster preparedness program](#) can be completed online or in a traditional classroom setting. Students are taught to apply theoretical and practical knowledge to manage all types of disasters. UIU's academic year is divided into three semesters; each is further broken into two eight-week terms. Students take two or three classes each term, allowing them to fully concentrate on course content. Popular courses include emergency preparedness, psychology of disaster, and hazard mitigation. Students must maintain a minimum GPA of 2.0.

Online emergency management degree students are required to complete 120 semester credits (approximately 40 courses), with 54 credits from their major. A minimum of 18 credits must be from upper-division courses. UIU accepts up to 90 hours of transfer credits from other approved learning environments. The university maintains learning centers in several military installations and offers a 10% discount on tuition to military personnel and their families.

## 2. RANK



Adelphi University

Garden City, NY

\$32,340 annually

### ADDRESS

1 South Ave

Garden City, NY 11530

(800) 233-5744

Adelphi's [online emergency services administration](#) program requires students to complete 39 credits. Coursework covers all aspects of disaster management including legal, financial, and health concerns. The flexible format allows students to take classes in a hybrid format or entirely online.

The course ends with a two-semester capstone that includes a seminar and independent research. Students may transfer up to 90 credits to Adelphi. Firefighters, police officers, emergency medical technicians, and professionals from similar fields may qualify for up to 60 prior learning credits.

## 3. RANK



Arkansas State University

Jonesboro, AR

\$7,510 in state;

\$13,120 out of state

### SCHOOL PROFILE

#### ADDRESS

2105 E. Aggie Road

Jonesboro, AR 72401

(870) 972-2100

The interdisciplinary [online disaster preparedness and emergency management program](#) at Arkansas State provides students with a foundational background in emergency preparedness. Distance learners can tailor the curriculum to fit their interests by taking courses from several related disciplines.

Arkansas State is home to the [Regional Center for Disaster Preparedness Education](#). The center is a disaster preparedness training center, and is recognized by the American Medical Association and the National Disaster Life Support Foundation. Here, students can complete their practicum at a number of sites, including hospitals, law enforcement agencies, and government offices.

The program requires students to complete 120 semester hours of coursework, which is approximately 40 courses. Distance learners need to take 25 credit hours in an area of emphasis. These include disaster life support, civil disorder in emergencies, radiological and hazardous substances emergencies, homeland security, or project management. The university accepts up to 90 hours of qualifying transfer credits, and students may also receive up to 30 hours of credit for work experience outside of academia.