



# Discovering FESHE

*An organization of post-secondary institutions promoting higher education and enhancing the recognition of fire and emergency services as a profession . . .*



FEMA

## FESHE: Who We Are

Working with coordinators of two- and four-year academic fire and EMS degree programs, the U.S. Fire Administration's National Fire Academy (NFA) has established the Fire and Emergency Services Higher Education (FESHE) network of emergency services-related education and training providers.

To accomplish this mission, the NFA convenes annual:

- FESHE conferences on its campus in Emmitsburg, MD. Representatives from fire and emergency services-related degrees programs, State and local fire service training agencies, and national fire service organizations attend the three-day conference.
- Meetings of standing FESHE committees where model course outlines, conference agendas, recommendations and new initiatives are developed.

Through these conferences and meetings, FESHE members have made remarkable strides in developing the:

- National Professional Development Model and its practical application, the Matrix.
- Model course outlines for fire-related and EMS Management degree programs in partnership with fire-related publishers to write textbooks that support them.
- Fostering culture change in Line of Duty Death prevention through a partnership between FESHE and the National Fallen Fire Fighters Foundation.
- Promoting academic research and scholarship and the development of students' research skills.

*The FESHE Mission is to:*

PROVIDE AN ORGANIZATION OF  
POST-SECONDARY INSTITUTIONS  
TO PROMOTE HIGHER EDUCATION  
AND TO ENHANCE THE RECOGNITION  
OF THE FIRE AND EMERGENCY  
SERVICES AS PROFESSIONS TO REDUCE  
LOSS OF LIFE AND PROPERTY  
FROM FIRE AND OTHER HAZARDS.

ONLINE at

[www.usfa.dhs.gov/  
nfa/higher\\_ed/](http://www.usfa.dhs.gov/nfa/higher_ed/)

# Discovering FESHE

Here's how to fully  
discover all there is about  
the program . . .

VISIT US : SUBSCRIBE : ATTEND : WRITE

1. VISIT US online at [www.usfa.dhs.gov/nfa/higher\\_ed/](http://www.usfa.dhs.gov/nfa/higher_ed/).
2. SUBSCRIBE to the online forum "Virtual LAMP Post" at [www.usfa.dhs.gov/nfa/higher\\_ed/forums/](http://www.usfa.dhs.gov/nfa/higher_ed/forums/) for late-breaking information on fire and emergency services-related professional development activities, including the annual conference announcement that is posted in January/February.
3. ATTEND the annual conference the first weekend in June at the National Fire Academy in Emmitsburg, MD (participation is based on eligibility) and visit [usfa.dhs.gov/nfa/higher\\_ed/feshe\\_conf/](http://usfa.dhs.gov/nfa/higher_ed/feshe_conf/) for past and upcoming conference information.
4. WRITE to [Fema-FESHE@dhs.gov](mailto:Fema-FESHE@dhs.gov) if you have questions or need information.

## Professional Development: Strategic Goals

Working collaboratively, the professional development community will produce a:

**1** National model for an integrated, competency-based system of fire and emergency services professional development.



National model for an integrated system of higher education from associate's degrees to doctoral degrees.

**2**

**3** Well-trained and academically-educated fire and emergency services preparing the nation for all hazards.



# Core Knowledge

With the availability of model curricula, many FESHE programs across the country are adopting the following . . .

[WWW.USFA.DHS.GOV/NFA/HIGHER\\_ED/](http://WWW.USFA.DHS.GOV/NFA/HIGHER_ED/)

## The FESHE Model Curriculum: Standardizing Education

FESHE schools are adopting peer- and NFA-developed model courses that form a national curriculum from which current and future leaders can learn and advocate critical leadership and fire safety principles.

Since 1999, FESHE leaders labored to produce through consensus, a standardized undergraduate curriculum that is national in scope, content and outcomes. This represents a major paradigm shift from a fragmented system of education to one that is unified and integrated.

There now exists a robust national model curriculum of fire-related and EMS management courses for colleges and universities to adopt as their own. All the courses share common titles, catalog descriptions, outlines and content which provide a national core of knowledge and competencies delivered by the FESHE programs. These course outlines share common content through FESHE's partnership with commercial publishers who write textbooks and faculty supplements that support them.

What this curriculum linkage represents is a milestone in fire and emergency services education: If your fire science associate's degree offers these model courses, you can plan on being better prepared for your bachelor's course work.

On the pages that follow, these courses are listed for your review.

1. SIX associate's core courses that form the foundational knowledge of every graduate regardless of where their degree is earned and 7 non-core courses commonly offered as core and/or electives.
2. TWO 3-course associate's concentrations in fire prevention and fire protection engineering.
3. SEVEN associate's/bachelor's courses in EMS management.
4. LINE of Duty Death prevention courses for associate's and bachelor's programs, developed with funds from the National Fallen Firefighters Foundation in support of its "Everyone Goes Home" campaign.
5. FESHE baccalaureate curriculum comprised of 15 upper-level courses.

# National Fire and Emergency Services Model Undergraduate Curriculum

## Associate's Curriculum

### CORE COURSES

- Fire Prevention
- Fire Protection Hydraulics and Water Supply
- Fire Protection Systems
- Fire Behavior and Combustion
- Principles of Emergency Services
- Building Construction for Fire Protection

### NON-CORE COURSES

- Legal Aspects
- Hazardous Materials Chemistry
- Introduction to Fire and Emergency Services Administration
- Occupational Health and Safety
- Fire Investigation I (First Responders)
- Fire Investigation II (Investigators)
- Strategy and Tactics

### FIRE PREVENTION CONCENTRATION

- Fire and Life Safety Education
- Principles of Code Enforcement
- Fire Plans Review

### FIRE PROTECTION ENGINEERING CONCENTRATION

- Advanced Concepts in Structural Fire Protection Systems
- Human Behavior in Fire
- Performance-based Design

### LINE OF DUTY DEATH PREVENTION

- Principles of Fire Fighter Safety and Survival

*\* Not yet available through the Degrees at a Distance Program*

*NOTE: A comprehensive depiction of this model curriculum and recommended general education courses, called "Building a Competency-Based FESHE Program: Recommended Under- and Post-Graduate Courses and Correlating Competencies," is available at [www.usfa.dhs.gov/nfa/higher\\_ed](http://www.usfa.dhs.gov/nfa/higher_ed)*

## Bachelor's Curriculum

### FESHE Model/Degrees at a Distance Program Courses

- Fire Prevention Organization and Management (FPOM)
- Fire Protection Structures and Systems (FPSS)
- FPSS
- Fire Dynamics
- Personnel Management for the Fire and Emergency Services

- Political and Legal Foundations of Fire Protection
- Managerial Issues in Hazardous Materials
- Fire & Emergency Services Administration
- Personnel Management for the Fire & Emergency Services
- Fire Investigation and Analysis (FIA)
- FIA
- Disaster and Fire Defense Planning
- Analytical Approaches to Public Fire Protection
- Applications of Fire Research

- Community Risk Reduction for the Fire and Emergency Services Fire
- FPOM

- FPSS
- Fire-Related Human Behavior

\*Advanced Principles of Fire Fighter Safety and Survival

### EMS MANAGEMENT/BACHELOR'S CURRICULUM

- Foundation of EMS Systems
- EMS Operations and Administration
- Injury and Illness Prevention in the Community
- EMS Quality and Performance Management
- Legal, Political and Regulatory Environment of EMS
- Safety and Risk Management

## NFA's Degrees at a Distance: Complete the FESHE Bachelor's Curriculum Online

Increasingly, chief and mid-level officers in fire departments around the country are required to hold a bachelor's degree. The Degrees at a Distance Program (DDP) is an online degree program sponsored by NFA, which has agreements with seven accredited colleges and universities throughout the country to offer bachelor's degrees with concentrations in fire administration and fire prevention technology.

While independent study and distance learning have appealed to working adults nationally in growing numbers for the past few years, DDP is particularly attractive to fire service personnel whose fire departments' shift work normally makes classroom attendance difficult. DDP provides an alternative means for fire service personnel to earn a bachelor's degree or to pursue college-level learning in a fire-related course concentration without the requirement of having to attend on-campus classes.

In addition to offering the NFA-developed FESHE Bachelor's curriculum, the schools also have agreements with the fire science associate's programs whose students transfer in having taken the preparatory lower-level FESHE courses.

### WHAT IS THE DEGREES AT A DISTANCE PROGRAM?

DDP is a way to take college courses online to earn a bachelor's degree with concentrations in fire administration or fire prevention technology. The curriculum comprises of 13 junior- and senior-level FESHE Bachelor's courses that form the concentrations.

#### Cogswell College

Serving AZ, CA, NV  
Phone: (800) 264-7955 x105  
Email: DDP@cogswell.edu  
[www.cogswell.edu/fireScience.html](http://www.cogswell.edu/fireScience.html)

#### University of Cincinnati

Serving FL, GA, IN, MI, MN, ND, OH, SD, WI  
Phone: (513) 556-6583  
Email: [william.kramer@uc.edu](mailto:william.kramer@uc.edu)  
[www.uc.edu/cas/firescience](http://www.uc.edu/cas/firescience)

#### Western Illinois University

Serving IL, IA, KS, MO, NE, NM, OK, TX  
Phone: (309) 298-1929  
Email: [NP-BOT@wiu.edu](mailto:NP-BOT@wiu.edu)  
[www.wiu.edu/BOTdegree](http://www.wiu.edu/BOTdegree)

#### University of Memphis

Serving AL, AR, KY, LA, MS, SC, TN  
Phone: (901) 678-2716  
Email: [univcoll@memphis.edu](mailto:univcoll@memphis.edu)  
[www.uc.memphis.edu/undergrad-fire-admin.php](http://www.uc.memphis.edu/undergrad-fire-admin.php)

DDP is offered through a national network of four-year colleges and universities that adopt the NFA-developed curriculum to form their own individual degree programs. Your regional college delivers the courses over the Internet employing state-of-the-art web-based learning design principles.

With all the instruction delivered completely over the Internet, access to courses is easy and learning is enjoyable. Students engage in online learning activities in which they collaborate with each other, engage in debate and discussion through postings, research related Web sites and complete projects that are relevant to their fire department jobs.

### HOW IS DDP LINKED TO THE FESHE MODEL ASSOCIATE'S COURSES?

NFA develops the courses and its DDP schools deliver them as part of their own degree programs thus enabling a truly unique national fire and emergency services-related undergraduate curriculum in partnership with the fire science associate's programs. When the curriculum was revised and converted to a web-based format, a strategic review of the FESHE model associate's curriculum was conducted. National experts reviewed the entire undergraduate curriculum to ensure that the lower-level model courses prepared students for their upper-level counter-parts to the extent practical, as shown on the FESHE undergraduate curriculum page.

To learn more about the program and find the contact information for the school serving your state, visit [www.usfa.dhs.gov/nfa/higher\\_ed/](http://www.usfa.dhs.gov/nfa/higher_ed/)

#### University of Maryland University College

Serving DE, MD, NJ, NC, DC, WV, VA  
Phone: (800) 283-6832  
Email: [ssarter@umuc.edu](mailto:ssarter@umuc.edu)  
[www.umuc.edu](http://www.umuc.edu)

#### Western Oregon University

Serving AK, CO, HI, ID, MT, OR, UT, WA, WY  
Phone: 1-800-451-5767  
Email: [FSA@wou.edu](mailto:FSA@wou.edu)  
[www.wou.edu/FSA](http://www.wou.edu/FSA)

#### SUNY Empire State College

Serving CT, ME, MA, NH, NY, PA, RI, VT  
Phone: (518) 587-2100 x300  
Email: [robert.fruchter@esc.edu](mailto:robert.fruchter@esc.edu)  
[www.esc.edu/esconline/across\\_esc/cdl/cdl.nsf/wholeshortlinks2/Emergency+Services?opendocument](http://www.esc.edu/esconline/across_esc/cdl/cdl.nsf/wholeshortlinks2/Emergency+Services?opendocument)

## Everyone Goes Home: Changing the Culture through FESHE, Honoring the

The FESHE community comprises of all the colleges and universities in the U. S. that deliver fire and emergency services-related degrees. The International Association of Fire and Emergency Services Higher Education (IAFESHE) has partnered with the National Fallen Firefighters Foundation (NFFF) to incorporate fire fighter safety into the degree curricula and programs. The NFFF is also raising awareness of fire fighter safety through a national campaign called “Everyone Goes Home.”



To advance this shared vision of honoring fallen fire fighters and preventing future line of duty deaths and injuries, sponsors can purchase a brick on the Walk of Honor that winds through the grounds of the National Fallen Firefighters Park. The park is located on the grounds of the NFA in Emmitsburg, Maryland and is the first national memorial honoring America’s fire service.

The Walk of Honor is adorned with circular nodes set aside for sponsors supportive of the Foundation’s mission. Such a node is reserved for the FESHE community (*see below*).

# Honoring the Fallen

The FESHE community makes its mark on the historic Walk of Honor

ONLINE AT [WWW.FIREHERO.ORG](http://WWW.FIREHERO.ORG)

## Fallen & Promoting Prevention through Education



There is also a section of bricks next to the FESHE node to honor:

- Fire service training and fire department partners
- Educational materials and service providers
- State, Regional, Local and Tribal Fire-related Organizations
- Mentors, instructors, graduates and colleagues
- A graduating class or fire science course

The FESHE community continues to vigorously support the mission of the National Fallen Firefighters Foundation. A special area of the Walk of Honor has been reserved for community affiliates. The node is an impressive array of institutional logos and insignias from colleges and universities with academic fire programs and State fire training academies.

For more information, visit the FESHE web page.

