Additional academy training and education not provided by Purdue Global may be required for firefighting or emergency management jobs.

Associate of Applied Science in

FIRE SCIENCE

Come Back Stronger, Ready to Move Your Fire Services Career Forward

Protecting society is more than a career — it's a calling. And this is your time to answer the call. Our associate's degree equips you with the skills you need to advance your career today, and the competitive edge to conquer whatever tomorrow brings. You'll gain a broad understanding of fire science, including fire protection, prevention, and an introduction to state-of-the-art technology. Take the next step in your life and your career.

The degree program is closely based on the Fire and Emergency Services Higher Education (FESHE) curriculum model and is accredited by the International Fire Service Accreditation Congress (IFSAC).

PURDUE GLOBAL™

Why Study Fire Science at Purdue Global?

Built for Working Adults

Complete courses online, without compromising your work or family schedule.

Backed by the Power of Purdue

Earn a degree you can be proud of — and one that employers will respect. Achieve more in the fire science field with a name that opens doors in your career.

Faculty Are Experts in the Field

Learn from experienced professionals with a variety of backgrounds in public safety, emergency management, and firefighting. Many are currently working in fire safety; they understand your career requirements and the challenges you face, and offer real-world perspectives you can respect.

Your Experience and Industry Certifications Count as College Credit

It's time to get the recognition you deserve. Use prior coursework, professional learning, military training, and certifications to graduate sooner. We work closely with fire academies and fire service associations to make earning your degree more affordable and efficient.[1]

IAFF Partnership and Tuition Reduction

Purdue Global partners with the IAFF to provide members, staff, and immediate family members a significant tuition reduction.[2]

Personal Support

Work directly with faculty through online discussion boards and seminars, and enjoy no-cost individual tutoring. In addition, academic and career advisors are dedicated to helping you balance school with your career and life responsibilities.

Introductory Trial Period

Make sure online learning at Purdue Global is right for you. Enroll in the University and try our classes for 3 weeks — before you owe any tuition. That's the Purdue Global Commitment.[3]

An Education That's Proven and Respected

Purdue Global is backed by Purdue University. One of the most prestigious universities in the world, Purdue ranked #16 overall and #1 in education among *Fast Company* magazine's prestigious **World's Most Innovative Companies**.[4]

IFSAC Accredited Program

Recognized by the U.S. Fire Administration as an Official **FESHE** Institution

IAFF

Additional academy training and education not provided by Purdue Global may be required for firefighting or emergency management jobs.

Take the Next Step in Your Career and Your Education

ADVANCE THROUGH THE FIRE DEPARTMENT CHAIN OF COMMAND

Build your career from firefighter to driver/operator, lieutenant or captain, battalion chief, deputy chief, assistant chief, and even fire chief. Positions beyond battalion chief may require a bachelor's degree in fire science or a related field.

BUILD A PATHWAY TO A BACHELOR'S OR MASTER'S DEGREE

The program prepares students with the foundation to pursue additional education. Once you earn your associate's degree credential, you can transfer it directly into your Purdue Global bachelor's, which includes an accelerated master's degree option.[5]

GAIN THE SKILLS AND EXPERIENCE THAT EMPLOYERS DEMAND

This program is designed to teach you the following:

- How building construction impacts firefighter safety, building codes, and fire prevention
- The behavior of fire, including testing procedures used to determine fire resistance and flame spread
- Firefighting strategy and tactics, including fire defense planning and the use of computer technology
- Components of fire investigation and analysis, including fire dynamics, flame spread, and incident investigation
- Analytical approaches to fire protection and investigation, such as scientific methods of inquiry and reasoning
- The psychological effects of fire dynamics

Curriculum

The courses focus on interagency coordination, fire incident command, and life safety education. The curriculum is reviewed and revised regularly by industry experts to ensure it reflects the most recent developments and technical advances in the field.

Major Courses Include

- Human Relations in a Diverse Society
- Introduction to Fire and Emergency Services
- Fire Behavior and Combustion
- Building Construction for Fire Protection
- Fire Protection Hydraulics and Water Supply
- Fire Protection Systems
- Fire Prevention Practices
- Strategy and Tactics
- Principles of Emergency Services
- Occupational Safety and Health for Emergency Services
- Legal Aspects of Emergency Services

Program Detail

Credit Hours: 90
Program Length: 1–2 years[6]
Course Load: 1–2 courses per term
Terms: 10 weeks long
Start Dates: Every 10 weeks
Delivery: 100% online

Additional Programs

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

Career and Networking Opportunities

Industry Outlook[7]

- Employment of **fire inspectors and investigators** is projected to grow as fast as average from 2022 to 2032.
- Job prospects for **firefighters** will also be good in that time frame. Having some postsecondary firefighter education should help enhance employment opportunities.

Career Pathways and Outcomes[8]

Roles

- Firefighter
- Fire inspector
- Fire investigator
- First line supervisor
- Fire protection sales agent

Settings/Industries

- Fire stations/departments
- Police departments
- Private industry fields such as insurance companies

Note: Additional academy training and education may be required for firefighting or emergency management jobs.

The Center for Career Advancement

Our Career Specialists connect fire science students with job and networking opportunities and offer the following assistance:

- Career assessment/exploration
- Resume and cover letter review
- Interview preparation/mock interviews
- Portfolio development to showcase your skills
- Assistance in building an online presence
- Job search and networking support
- Virtual career fairs
- 24/7 online access to job openings and career development tools

Purdue Global Is Accredited by the Higher Learning Commission
The HLC (HLCommission.org) is an institutional accreditation agency recognized by the U.S. Department of Education.

Military Friendly
We offer reduced tuition rates for servicemembers, veterans, and spouses.

Contact an Admissions Advisor at 844-PURDUE-G or visit PurdueGlobal.edu.

IMPORTANT INFORMATION: PLEASE READ

For comprehensive consumer information, visit info.purdueglobal.edu.

1 Purdue Global does not guarantee transferability of credit from any of these sources. See the University Catalog for Prior Learning Assessment policy.

2 Eligible family members include spouses, domestic partners, parents, siblings, and children. Must be an employee or member of an organization with which Purdue Global has an educational relationship. Contact an Admissions Advisor for details. May not be combined with other Purdue Global tuition reductions or ExcelTrack® pricing.

3 Classes count toward a degree if satisfactorily completed. No credits are earned if the student withdraws during the introductory period (3 weeks for new qualifying undergraduate students), which begins day one of the first term. Students who choose to continue their studies at Purdue Global will need to meet specific requirements. Graduate programs not included. Additional terms may apply to international and non-U.S. citizen students. For further information, see the University Catalog.

4 Source: https://www.fastcompany.com/most-innovative-companies/list. Ranking applies to Purdue University West Lafayette and not to Purdue Global.

5 While many of Purdue Global's degree programs are designed to prepare graduates to pursue continued education, the University cannot guarantee that students will be granted admission to any future programs.

6 The average completion time for Purdue Global online associate's degree students who graduated in the 2021–2022 academic year was 1.7 years. Source: Purdue Global Office of Reporting and Analysis, July 2022.

7 Source: U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics, Occupational Outlook Handbook, Firefighters, Fire Inspectors. National long-term projections may not reflect local and/or short-term economic or job conditions, and do not guarantee actual job growth.

8 Purdue Global cannot guarantee employment or career advancement. In addition, job titles and responsibilities may vary from organization to organization.

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