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## Bachelor of Science in **FIRE SCIENCE**

### **Come Back Stronger, Ready for Real Opportunities in Fire Services**

The field of fire science needs dedicated professionals equipped with the expertise and experience to take on new challenges, lead others, and serve the public. This is your time — your moment — to earn your degree and meet that demand. Our bachelor's program offers in-depth knowledge of rapidly changing technologies, tactics, and procedures, with a focus on interagency coordination, fire incident command, arson investigation, and life safety education.

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).



# 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 Certifications Count as College Credit**

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

## **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.<sup>2</sup>

## **IAFF Partnership and Tuition Reduction**

Purdue Global partners with the International Association of Fire Fighters (IAFF) to provide members, staff, and immediate family members a significant tuition reduction.<sup>3</sup>

## **An Education That's Proven and Respected**

Purdue Global is part of the respected Purdue University system. One of the most prestigious research universities in the world, Purdue is ranked #16 most innovative company in the world alongside Open AI, NASA, and Microsoft.<sup>4</sup>



**IFSAC**  
Accredited  
Program



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



**IAFF**

# Take the Next Step in Your Education and Your Career

## **Prepare for Leadership Opportunities**

A bachelor's degree could help current fire service professionals advance to higher-level positions in fire departments and private industry. A bachelor's degree in fire science or a related field is now required for many management or supervisory roles.<sup>5</sup>

## **Gain the Skills and Knowledge That Employers Demand**

- **Fire foundations** — Gain a deep understanding of how building construction impacts firefighter safety, building codes and inspections, firefighting strategy, and fire prevention.
- **Analytical approaches** — Utilize scientific methods and reasoning for purposes of fire protection and investigation.
- **Firefighting strategy and technology** — Master the tactics and technology of firefighting as they apply to fire defense planning and methods of fire attack.
- **Fire investigation and analysis** — Explore fire dynamics, flame spread, and incident investigation, plus the technical, legal, and social aspects of arson.
- **Principles of emergency services** — Discover career opportunities in the industry, as well as multiagency planning and disaster response.
- **Psychology** — Analyze fire-related human behavior and the psychological effects of fire dynamics.

## **GET A HEAD START ON YOUR MASTER'S DEGREE**



Complete your master's degree sooner with a graduate program pathway. It weaves graduate-level courses into your bachelor's program, giving you a jump on your master's degree requirements. You'll save on time and tuition compared with finishing both programs separately.

Plus, your degrees don't have to be in the same fields. You can customize your academic journey to support your career goals and interests. To learn more, view the University Catalog or connect with an Advisor.<sup>6</sup>



# Curriculum

The courses focus on fire protection and investigation, disaster and fire defense planning, hazardous materials management, fire protection structure and system design, and the role of the fire service within the community. The curriculum is reviewed and revised continually by industry experts to ensure it reflects the most recent developments and technical advances in the field.

## Major Courses Include

- Fire Behavior and Combustion
- Building Construction for Fire Protection
- Fire Protection Hydraulics and Water Supply
- Fire Protection Systems
- Strategy and Tactics
- Occupational Safety and Health for Emergency Services
- Legal Aspects of Emergency Services
- Fire Investigation and Analysis
- Advanced Principles of Firefighter Safety and Survival
- Community Risk Reduction for Fire and EMS
- Fire Prevention Organization and Management
- Leadership and Management
- Safety Risk Management for Fire and EMS
- Personnel Management for Fire and EMS

## Business Foundations Concentration

- Gain competencies in the fundamental concepts of business administration. Develop an understanding of the four functions of management, the components of a marketing strategy, and the financial performance of an organization.

## Capstone Course

A final, hands-on capstone allows you to build your resume, gain real-world skills, and put your knowledge into action.

## Program Detail

**Credit Hours:** 180

**Program Length:** 2–4 years (With transfer credit and other prior experience, the average completion time for Purdue Global bachelor's degree graduates in 2021–2022 was 2.1 years.)<sup>7</sup>

**Course Load:** 1–2 courses per term

**Terms:** 10 weeks long

**Start Dates:** Throughout the year

**Delivery:** 100% online



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## Additional Programs

- 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<sup>8</sup>

- The field is growing: employment of **fire inspectors and investigators** is projected to grow as faster than average from 2022 to 2032. Job prospects for **firefighters** will also be good in that time frame.
- Many departments require a bachelor's degree for positions higher than battalion chief.

## Career Pathways and Outcomes<sup>5</sup>

### Roles

- Firefighter/firefighting manager
- Fire prevention educator
- Fire inspector/investigator
- Fire protection sales agent
- First line supervisor
- Deputy or assistant chief
- Fire safety director
- Fire chief

### Settings/Industries

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

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## The Center for Career Advancement

Our Career Specialists connect you 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 (HLCCommission.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](https://PurdueGlobal.edu).

### IMPORTANT INFORMATION: PLEASE READ

For comprehensive consumer information, visit [info.purdueglobal.edu](https://info.purdueglobal.edu).

1 Purdue Global does not guarantee transferability of credit. See the University Catalog for the Prior Learning policy.

2 Students who inform Purdue Global they do not wish to pursue the program during the 3-week trial will not be charged. Students who choose to continue at Purdue Global will be billed for the full first term's tuition, including the 3-week trial, and will need to meet other specific requirements. Classes will be applied toward a degree if satisfactorily completed and students select to continue their studies at Purdue Global. 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. Graduate programs and BS in Professional Flight not included. Additional terms may apply to international and non-U.S. citizen students. For further information, see the University Catalog.

3 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.

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

5 Purdue Global cannot guarantee employment or career advancement. In addition, job titles and responsibilities may vary from organization to organization. Additional academy training and education may be required for firefighting or emergency management jobs.

6 Estimated graduation date is based on the assumption that you will enroll in time to begin classes on the next upcoming start date, will remain enrolled for each consecutive term, and will maintain satisfactory academic standing in each term to progress toward completion of your program. Completion time is based on a full-time schedule. Programs will take longer for part-time students to complete. To start a Graduate Program Pathway, students should consult with their Student Advisor to confirm eligibility. Not all Graduate Program Pathways are available on all tracks, and some may require students to meet academic standards to continue taking graduate courses in their bachelor's degree program. Visit the University Catalog for more information.

7 The average completion time for Purdue Global online bachelor's degree students who graduated in the 2021-2022 academic year was 2.1 years. Source: Purdue Global Office of Reporting and Analysis, July 2022.

8 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.