

Naval Postgraduate School - Center for Homeland Defense and Security – Executive Leaders Program

The U.S. Department of Homeland Security's National Preparedness Directorate, FEMA and the Naval Postgraduate School (NPS) Center for Homeland Defense and Security (CHDS) have pioneered graduate education programs for homeland security since 2003. The Executive Leaders Program (ELP) is offered at no cost to eligible local, tribal, territorial, state, federal and private sector officials.

Local, state, tribal and federal government agencies and the private sector are at the forefront of our nation's homeland security mission. Being at the forefront in a rapidly changing environment requires continuous education for our nation's homeland security leaders. All require a deeper understanding of the current and emerging homeland security issues, public policy debates, the terrorist threat and evolving best practices. The ELP provides the educational opportunity for our nation's homeland security leaders to develop the strategies, policies and organizational elements needed to defeat terrorism, prepare for and respond to natural disasters, and meet public safety challenges across the United States.

Overarching Goal and Objectives:

- To provide an educational forum to enhance senior leaders' capacity to identify and resolve homeland security problems as well as an opportunity to build networks among the nation's local, tribal, state, federal government, and private sector homeland security officials.
- To strengthen the national security of the United States by providing a non-degree graduate level educational program that meets the immediate and long-term needs of leaders responsible for homeland defense and security.
- To assist local, state, tribal, federal government and private sector executives in building capacity to defeat terrorism.

The ELP consists of four one-week sessions over a nine-month period held at the Naval Postgraduate School's Center for Homeland Defense and Security facilities in Monterey, CA. Participants must commit to attending all four sessions. Participants consist of approximately thirty-two senior public and private sector officials with homeland security responsibilities. The program is designed to accommodate the busy schedules of participating executives and does not require the workload of traditional graduate level education programs.

Program Requirements:

This program consists of four modules beginning with foundational aspects of homeland security and the threats, proceeding to describe the nature of the threats, legal and cultural aspects of preventing and preparing for the threats, the collaborations necessary to effectively manage the information sharing, threat recognition, protection measures, and plans in preparation for action.

Each of the one-week seminars will offer presentations on selected topics around leading in networks, and the nature and scope of the homeland security issues which are used to assess the strategic application of the resources of the local, state, tribal, and federal jurisdictions to address those issues. Seminars will be conducted on such topics as intelligence, critical infrastructure, border/immigration, threat recognition, crisis and risk communications, incident management and fear management as well as emerging homeland security issues. All of the topics will be discussed on a strategic, policy, and organizational design level with particular attention to intergovernmental planning challenges. The participants will consider complex issues and case studies, and work through problems that enable them to strengthen working relationships across regions, agencies, and local-state-federal jurisdictional and private sector lines.

The Naval Postgraduate School is fully accredited by the Western Association of Schools and Colleges (WASC).

For more information contact:

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Additional Information: Online application information is available at <https://www.chds.us/c/academic-programs/elp>. Application deadlines are January 15 and June 15 annually. Visit the Center for Homeland Defense and Security's website at www.chds.us to learn more.

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