

HIGHER EDUCATION PROGRAM

NATIONAL TRAINING AND EDUCATION DIVISION • NATIONAL PREPAREDNESS DIRECTORATE
NATIONAL EMERGENCY TRAINING CENTER • EMMITSBURG, MD



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Program News for the week ending October 30, 2020

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Program Update

We are taking time to reflect on the state of the Emergency Management Higher Education Program (HiEd) and affirm our commitment to serve the needs of the community, including institutions of higher education, professional organizations and practitioners who are all dedicated to advancing the field of emergency management. If you have any thoughts or comments regarding the future of the HiEd Program that you would like to share, please send an message to our new group email address: FEMA-HiEd@fema.dhs.gov.

We are in the process of a full redesign and update for both the College List and the HiEd website. The FEMA Office of the Chief Information Officer (OCIO) has established a Period of Non-Disruption (POND). The POND allows server updates and patching, but not much else. As soon as the POND is lifted, we will resume work. We hope to share the changes in the next few months. Thank you for your patience.

Community Call

The next HiEd Community conference call is Friday, November 20, 2020 from 2 to 3 p.m. ET. [Link to the community call](https://fema.zoomgov.com/j/16046780270) (<https://fema.zoomgov.com/j/16046780270>). Meeting ID: 160 4678 0270, Password: 621901. Learn from the emergency management academic community about what is new and exciting in their world. Find out about ongoing projects and discuss community needs that the HiEd Program can address. If you would like to be a presenter on a future call, send an email with your name, topic and short description to FEMA-HiEd@fema.dhs.gov.

The College List

[The College List](https://training.fema.gov/hiedu/collegelist/), located at <https://training.fema.gov/hiedu/collegelist/>, is a comprehensive online resource that outlines programs at all levels of study in emergency management (EM) and related fields. Information is stored in a database for analysis and management. HiEd Program staff do not provide recommendations or discuss the relative merits of the colleges and universities listed. If you have a new or updated program to include, send an email to fema-emi-collegelist@fema.dhs.gov.



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New College List Programs:

- [Florida International University](https://aidp.fiu.edu/degree-programs/undergraduate-program/index.html) (https://aidp.fiu.edu/degree-programs/undergraduate-program/index.html) - Bachelor of Arts in Disaster Management
- [Florida International University](https://aidp.fiu.edu/degree-programs/graduate-program/index.html) (https://aidp.fiu.edu/degree-programs/graduate-program/index.html) - Master of Arts in Disaster Management

Internship, Scholarship, Research and Training Opportunities

Disaster PRIMR 2021 @ Texas A&M: University Engagement in Disaster Preparedness Response Innovation Mitigation & Recovery. To be held virtually on January 31 to February 4, 2021. [More information regarding the conference and submission abstracts](http://2021primr.tamu.edu/) (http://2021primr.tamu.edu/).

[CDC/ATSDR Environmental Health Disaster Recovery Fellowship.](https://www.zintellect.com/Opportunity/Details/CDC-NCEH-2020-0247)

(https://www.zintellect.com/Opportunity/Details/CDC-NCEH-2020-0247). Three research opportunities are currently available within the Water, Food & Environmental Health Services Branch (WFEHSB), Division of Environmental Health Science and Practice (DEHSP) of the National Center for Environmental Health (NCEH) at the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) in Chamblee, Georgia.

Application Deadline: December 2, 2020 at 3:00:00 p.m. ET

The Center for Preparedness and Response is recruiting an Oak Ridge Institute for Science and Education (ORISE) fellow to support activities around vulnerable populations in emergencies, including the Vulnerable Populations Community of Practice and the At-Risk Task Force. [For more information](https://www.zintellect.com/Opportunity/Details/CDC-CPR-2020-0246) (https://www.zintellect.com/Opportunity/Details/CDC-CPR-2020-0246).

Bill Anderson Fund (BAF) is receiving nominations from PhD students from historically underrepresented groups who are in the 1st or 2nd year of their programs. [Applications for this academic year are available now](https://www.baf.udel.edu/engage/apply) (https://www.baf.udel.edu/engage/apply). Application deadline: December 1, 2020. For questions: Norma@BillAndersonFund.org.

[New Light Technologies, Inc. \(NLT\)](https://newlighttechnologies.com/), Earthquake Model Research & Development Internship for winter break (https://newlighttechnologies.com/). Intern will work closely with the Project Ptolemy Lead Scientist to research, validate and further develop the NLT Earthquake Damage Assessment Model. The intern will compare the Project: Ptolemy Earthquake Model results to other industry models using GIS, creating documentation and presenting their findings to the R&D Team. The intern will also learn to deeply understand the methodology of the Project: Ptolemy Earthquake Model and create documentation explaining the methods and workflows in layman's terms for public-facing documentation, in addition to providing recommendations for improvements to model development.

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Qualifications:

- Upper-level undergraduate or graduate student studying GIS, Geophysics, Earth Sciences, Natural Disasters or related field
- Good understanding of geophysical processes, particularly earthquakes
- Previous experience working with GIS

Preferred Skills:

- Intermediate GIS skills
- Familiarity with authoritative earthquake data and models
 - USGS ShakeMap (required)
 - Hazus-MH (not required)
- Familiarity with hazard modeling and interest in learning how to predict damages to structures following earthquakes
- Experience writing documentation describing complex methodologies
- Good communicator & good presentation skills

Duration: Early/mid-December 2020 to mid/late-January 2021 (6-8 weeks). To apply: Send your resume and a brief cover letter describing your interest in this position to madeline.jones@projectptolemy.co by Friday, November 6.

U.S. Global Change Research Program (USGCRP) and the Social Science Coordinating Committee are hosting an informational webinar for social scientists interested in contributing to Fifth National Climate Assessment (NCA5) on October 27, 2020, from 3:30 to 4:30 p.m. ET. The webinar will focus on increasing the integration of social sciences throughout NCA5 and highlight opportunities for researchers and individuals to get involved. USGCRP leadership will provide an introduction to the program and the NCA, and social scientist authors of past NCA chapters will share their experiences. [Register to receive connection information and a calendar invite](https://www.globalchange.gov/nca5) (<https://www.globalchange.gov/nca5>). The presentations will be recorded for those unable to attend live.

Special Interest Groups

Special Interest Groups (SIGs) support the increased exchange of knowledge in specific areas and applications of emergency management education. SIG members can potentially become involved in co-authoring/researching and serving as mentors to students and as subject matter experts to practitioners. [Click here for more information and a list of SIGs](https://training.fema.gov/hiedu/specialinterest/sig.aspx) (<https://training.fema.gov/hiedu/specialinterest/sig.aspx>). To join a SIG, send an email to FEMA-HiEd@fema.dhs.gov.





Creation of new Special Interest Group (SIG): Wildland Urban Interface Governance

Co-Lead: Brian Gerber, Arizona State University, Brian.Gerber@asu.edu, 602-496-0566

Co-Lead: Steve Jensen, California State University, Long Beach, steven.jensen@csulb.edu, 562-900-4532

The focus of the Wildland Urban Interface Governance SIG is the intersection of science and policy in the reduction of risk in the wildland urban interface (WUI). The science behind fire at the WUI is extensive and sufficient in many respects—but it is also spread across many distinct domains and, as such, greater integration can help reduce risk and promote community resilience more effectively. An understanding of the multidimensional and interactive nature of WUI fire risk requires an appreciation of the complexity to develop effective governance: sound public policies across the federal system, robust cross-sector cooperation and collaboration, increased public awareness and efficacious management practices. With over 43,000,000 homes in the WUI across the United States, the scale of this escalating problem requires comprehensive public policy improvements that can be readily adapted and implemented across a diverse and wide range of communities. As the WUI challenge is not limited to the United States, the SIG will invite engagement from colleagues in other national systems. The SIG will also seek to serve as a venue for practitioner and academic exchange on WUI topics, including efforts to improve WUI awareness in higher education programs.

Working Objectives of the WUI Governance SIG:

- Develop a comprehensive WUI Fire Risk framework and sense-making of complex risks
- Review the relevant disaster science and assessment of areas of improved governance
- Create and promote easy access to WUI-related disaster science and public policy and management innovation through a web-based dashboard
- Promote effective policy development and implementation tools
- Promote a venue for exchange between practitioners and the higher education community

Next steps:

- The Co-Leads invite participants to join the Wildland Urban interface Governance SIG. Please contact either Brian or Steve, or both, if you would like further information about joining the SIG
- An initial meeting of the WUI Governance SIG will be scheduled for early December 2020

Resources

The resources below are compiled from a variety of sources to support research or classroom use. The links are provided as a convenience. They do not constitute any endorsement or approval by FEMA or the Higher Education Program.

FEMA Podcast: [Episode 79: Building Resilient Infrastructure and Communities \(BRIC\)](https://www.fema.gov/about/news-multimedia/podcast)
(<https://www.fema.gov/about/news-multimedia/podcast>)

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FEMA Blog: [We Are FEMA: Lindsey Parker](https://www.fema.gov/blog/we-are-fema-lindsey-parker) (<https://www.fema.gov/blog/we-are-fema-lindsey-parker>)

Homeland Security News Wire

[Disaster Preparedness in the Palm of Your Hand](http://www.homelandsecuritynewswire.com/dr20201021-disaster-preparedness-in-the-palm-of-your-hand) (<http://www.homelandsecuritynewswire.com/dr20201021-disaster-preparedness-in-the-palm-of-your-hand>)

[Making Critical Infrastructure Safer as Natural Disasters Increase](http://www.homelandsecuritynewswire.com/dr20201023-making-critical-infrastructure-safer-as-natural-disasters-increase)

(<http://www.homelandsecuritynewswire.com/dr20201023-making-critical-infrastructure-safer-as-natural-disasters-increase>)

Route Fifty

[Climate Change Amplifies Colorado's Water Diversion Debate](https://www.route-fifty.com/infrastructure/2020/10/climate-change-amplifies-colorados-water-diversion-debate/169310/) (<https://www.route-fifty.com/infrastructure/2020/10/climate-change-amplifies-colorados-water-diversion-debate/169310/>)

The Chronicle of Higher Education

[Will 2020 Be a 'Lost Year' for Students?](https://www.chronicle.com/newsletter/the-edge/2020-10-21) (<https://www.chronicle.com/newsletter/the-edge/2020-10-21>)

[How to Assess Students Online and Limit Cheating](https://www.chronicle.com/newsletter/quick-tip/2020-10-15) (<https://www.chronicle.com/newsletter/quick-tip/2020-10-15>)

FEMA Shares Case Studies for Interagency Disaster Recovery Coordination on communities like [Ellicott City](https://www.fema.gov/case-study/pre-planning-and-community-participation) (<https://www.fema.gov/case-study/pre-planning-and-community-participation>) to share stories of recovery coordination solutions, lessons learned and best practices. These case studies highlight challenging scenarios faced during disaster recovery efforts and detail how emergency managers collaborated with federal, state, local, tribal, territorial and private partners to overcome those challenges. The studies are available to practitioners, members of academia and the public through the [fema.gov Case Study Library](https://www.fema.gov/emergency-managers/practitioners/case-study-library) (<https://www.fema.gov/emergency-managers/practitioners/case-study-library>).

Given complex and unique challenges faced during disaster recovery, success stories are critical resources for practitioners preparing for and managing disasters. Additionally, case studies give readers insight on a variety of real-life incidents. The recovery case studies also support continuous learning for FEMA employees, their partners and the higher education community.

Have an idea for a case study? We want to hear it! Send your ideas to FEMA Interagency Coordination Division, FEMA-Recovery-ICD-GDO@fema.dhs.gov using the subject line "Case Study Suggestion," and a team member will contact you to schedule a preliminary interview.

Calendar

November 2-4, 2020

Center for Homeland Defense and Security (CHDS) 13th Annual Homeland Defense and Security Education Summit. Sponsored by FEMA's National Training and Education Division, the CHDS University and Agency Partnership Program is a strategic partner for the HiEd Program. This year's theme is



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“Leading and Educating in a Multi-Threat, Multi-Hazard Environment: What Homeland Security Leaders Need to Know.” The summit will be conducted in a virtual format to ensure maximum participation from our colleagues and friends around the U.S. (and beyond). As in previous years, the summit will feature focused sessions to explore complex issues in multi-threat/hazard operating environments, support faculty development, and present innovative approaches to homeland security research and education. Among the expert presenters, Scott Kelberg and Dr. Jeff Stern will speak on November 2 about the vision for HiEd Program, dubbed HiEd 2.0. [For more information](https://www.uapi.us/programs/2077) (<https://www.uapi.us/programs/2077>).

November 13, 2020

FEMA Accepts New Applications for COVID-19 Assistance to Firefighters Grant. FEMA is providing an additional chance for volunteer and combination fire departments to apply for funding under this year's Assistance to Firefighters COVID-19 Supplemental grant. Volunteer and combination fire departments are eligible to apply in this round even if they had a successful application in the first round earlier this year. However, applications must support new capabilities. Departments that applied in the first round but were unsuccessful must reapply to be considered for funding in this round. Applications from the first round will not automatically carry forward to this round for consideration. FEMA will accept applications until **5 p.m. ET on Nov. 13**. Remaining to be awarded are \$31 million in funds. Find more information on this funding opportunity on the [FEMA website](https://www.fema.gov/grants/preparedness/firefighters) (<https://www.fema.gov/grants/preparedness/firefighters>).

November 16-18, 2020

International Association of Emergency Managers 68th Annual Conference. This year's theme is “Visioning the Future of Emergency Management.” [For more information](https://www.iaem.org/usconf) (<https://www.iaem.org/usconf>).

December 1-3, 2020

National Integrated Drought Information System (NIDIS) Flash Drought Virtual Workshop, December 1-3, 2020. In convening the workshop, NIDIS hopes to coordinate and co-develop a research pathway to address the management and response challenges associated with flash drought. Registration deadline is November 6, 2020. [For more information and to register](https://cpaess.ucar.edu/meetings/2020/flash-drought-virtual-workshop) (<https://cpaess.ucar.edu/meetings/2020/flash-drought-virtual-workshop>).

Employment Opportunities

Federal vacancies are posted on [USAJOBS](https://www.usajobs.gov) at <https://www.usajobs.gov>. When you save a search, they will automatically send email updates with new jobs that match the criteria.

- Management and Program Analyst, GS 14, CLOSE 11/02/2020, [FEMA-21-TL-390551-DE](https://www.usajobs.gov/GetJob/ViewDetails/582499600) (<https://www.usajobs.gov/GetJob/ViewDetails/582499600>), Anniston, AL
- Instructional Systems Specialist, GS 11, CLOSE 11/09/2020, [FEMA-21-LC-394176-DE-V](https://www.usajobs.gov/GetJob/ViewDetails/582660100) (<https://www.usajobs.gov/GetJob/ViewDetails/582660100>), Anniston, AL

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Higher Education Vacancies:

- [The University of Memphis](https://workforum.memphis.edu/postings/26045) (https://workforum.memphis.edu/postings/26045) - Assistant Professor in Epidemiology
- [University of Southern Maine](https://usm.hiretouch.com/job-details?jobID=64814) (https://usm.hiretouch.com/job-details?jobID=64814) - Research Associate I: Epidemiologist
- [University of Maryland Global Campus](https://umgc.wd1.myworkdayjobs.com/en-US/UMGC_Careers/job/North-America-Remote/Homeland-Security--Intelligence--and-Emergency-Management--School-of-Arts---Sciences---Adjunct-Faculty_10012309) (https://umgc.wd1.myworkdayjobs.com/en-US/UMGC_Careers/job/North-America-Remote/Homeland-Security--Intelligence--and-Emergency-Management--School-of-Arts---Sciences---Adjunct-Faculty_10012309) - Homeland Security, Intelligence, and Emergency Management, School of Arts & Sciences - Adjunct Faculty
- [Virginia Commonwealth University](https://www.vcujobs.com/postings/101331) (https://www.vcujobs.com/postings/101331) - Instructor or Assistant Professor, Homeland Security and Emergency Preparedness
- [Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University](https://embryriddle.taleo.net/careersection/002/jobdetail.ftl?job=200387) (https://embryriddle.taleo.net/careersection/002/jobdetail.ftl?job=200387) - Assistant Professor Cyber Security
- [New Jersey City University](https://cho.the.taleo.net/cho02/ats/careers/v2/viewRequisition?org=NJCU&cws=41&rid=1230) (https://cho.the.taleo.net/cho02/ats/careers/v2/viewRequisition?org=NJCU&cws=41&rid=1230) - Tenure-Track Position in Professional Security Studies
- [Gustavus Adolphus College](https://www.higheredjobs.com/faculty/details.cfm?JobCode=177338918) (https://www.higheredjobs.com/faculty/details.cfm?JobCode=177338918) - Visiting Instructor (Geographic Information Sciences)
- [Central Oregon Community College](https://jobs.cocc.edu/postings/6366) (https://jobs.cocc.edu/postings/6366) - Part Time Instructor - Geographic Information Systems
- University of Colorado Boulder - JILA Science Communicator (**No longer available**)

Download the [FEMA App](https://www.fema.gov/mobile-app) (URL: <https://www.fema.gov/mobile-app>) **to receive weather alerts from the NWS for up to five different locations anywhere in the U.S. Sign up via our free e-mail subscription service** (URL: https://service.govdelivery.com/accounts/USDHSFEMA/subscriber/new?topic_id=USDHSFEMA_149) **to receive notifications and information updates.**

FEMA's mission is helping people before, during, and after disasters.

FEMA and the HiEd Program do not endorse any non-government websites, companies or applications.