




FEMA

**US&R GENERAL MEMORANDUM – 2020-042a**

May 28, 2020

**FOR:** National Urban Search & Rescue Response System  
Task Force Representatives and Program Managers

**FROM:** Dean Scott, Chief  
Operations Section  
Urban Search and Rescue Branch 

**SUBJECT:** US&R General Memorandum 2020-042a – (Revised) College Credit for  
Previously Completed US&R Training

**This revision provides an additional attachment describing the allowance of up to 6 credit hours towards a graduate degree for previously completed US&R training.**

This General Memorandum serves as notice for the National Urban Search and Rescue (US&R) Response System (the System) of a new college program being offered in which US&R training courses may be counted towards elective credits for an undergraduate degree program.

The University of Alaska-Fairbanks (UAF) has evaluated the System's course curriculums and made a determination that it will give elective credits to applicants that have completed FEMA US&R training courses. The evaluation process identified the amount of elective credit applicants will receive for having completed FEMA US&R Computer Based Training (CBT) and Instructor Lead Training (ILT) training courses, as well as for completion of older System curriculums that existed prior to the CBT and ILT format. In both cases, the applicant will need to send the UAF a PDF of the CBT and ILT certificate, or the ILT certificate if the course was taken prior to curriculum having an online component.

The attached flyer from the UAF describes the program and the amount of elective credit per US&R class. There is no application fee at this time for members of the US&R community (including federal, state, and regional US&R teams) and the application fee waiver code is on the attached flyer. The undergraduate classes are taught 100% online to accommodate fire department shift work/Kelly schedule.

This GM is designed to let System members know of a new way they may utilize previously completed US&R training towards furthering their higher education goals and should not be construed as a federal endorsement of any particular higher education program. The content of this GM has been reviewed by the FEMA Ethics Office to ensure that the content and attachment of this flyer complies with the applicable rules and policies. Additionally, the US&R Branch would also be interested to learn of any other universities providing the same kind of elective college credit for previously completed US&R training.

Any questions related to this General Memorandum should be directed to Brian Smith at: [briand.smith@fema.dhs.gov](mailto:briand.smith@fema.dhs.gov).



**US&R General Memorandum 2020-042a** – College Credit for Previously Completed US&R Training

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Attachments:













University of Alaska, Fairbanks – Undergraduate Credit for US&R Training Flyer  
**University of Alaska, Fairbanks – Graduate Credit for US&R Training Flyer**

cc:

US&R Strategic Group  
US&R Advisory Group  
US&R Branch Staff  
FEMA Regional/Federal/International ESF #9 Representatives

## BACHELOR OF SECURITY AND EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT

### RECEIVE COLLEGE CREDIT FOR URBAN SEARCH AND RESCUE (US&R) TRAINING

	Course Name	College Credit Towards Major	Credit Level
	Structural Collapse Specialist (Course Code 9P2630 & 9P2631 or equivalent)	6.6 credit hours	400
	Rope Rescue (NFPA Level 1 & 2 or Technician)	1 credit hour	200
	Confined Space Rescue (NFPA Level 1 & 2 or Technician)	2 credit hours	200
	Trench Rescue (NFPA Level 1 & 2 or Technician)	2 credit hours	200
	Vehicle and Machinery Rescue (NFPA Level 1 & 2 or Technician)	2 credit hours	200
	Canine Search Specialist (Course Code 9P1330 & 9P1331 or equivalent)	3 credit hours	400
	Medical Team Specialist (Course Code 9P3130 & 9P3131 or equivalent)	4.43 credit hours	400
	Logistics Team Specialist (Course Code 9P4130 & 9P4131 or equivalent)	3.825 credit hours	400
	Planning Team Training (Course Code 9P6130 & 9P6131 or equivalent)	3 credit hours	400
	Technical Search Specialist (Course Code 9P1230 & 9P1231 or equivalent)	3.3 credit hours	400
	Heavy Equipment and Rigging Specialist (Course Code 9P2730 & 9P2731 or equivalent)	2.85 credit hours	400
	Communications Specialist (Course Code 9P4530 & 9P4531 or equivalent)	4.95 credit hours	400
	Task Force Leader (Course Code 9P7130 & 9P7131 or equivalent)	2.4 credit hours	400
	Task Force Safety Officer (Course Code 9P7230 & 9P7231 or equivalent)	2.33 credit hours	400
	US&R Hazardous Materials Specialist (Course Code 9P5530 & 9P5531 or equivalent)	2.4 credit hours	400
	NFPA 472 - Hazardous Materials Specialist	3 credit hours	200
	ICS 100, 200, 700 and 800B (combination of all four certificates)	3 credit hours	100
	Enhanced Operations in the Contaminated Environment (Course Code 9G5410 & 9G5420)	1 credit hour	400
	ICS 300 - Expanding Incidents for Operational First Responders	1.58 credit hours	300
	ICS 400 - Advanced ICS for Command and General Staff	1.13 credit hours	400

# HOMELAND SECURITY & EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT

- Classes are offered 100% online format and accommodate shift work and Kelly Shift Schedules
- Degree Requirements – Students must earn 120 credits with a C- or better in each course.

Required Bachelor of Security and Emergency Management, HSEM Major Courses Must earn a total of 39 credits at the 300 and 400 Level
Principles of Emergency Management and Homeland Security
Disaster Response Operations and Management
Leadership in Dangerous Contexts
Emergency Planning and Preparedness
All-Hazards Risk Analysis
Training and Management Development
Business Continuity and Crisis Management
Introductory Human Resources Management
Fiscal Management for Emergency Management Operations
Twelve additional credit hours of electives. Students may use previously completed US&R training to meet these credit hours.

Quantity	General Education Courses
2	Writing courses
1	Oral Communications course
2	Social Science courses
1	Humanities course
1	Arts course
1	Additional Arts/Humanities/Social Science course
2	Natural Science with Lab courses
1	College Level Math course
1	Library Science course
1	Ethics course

Credit Hours	Emergency Services Credit Hours
21-33	Students may use previously completed US&R training to meet these credit hours.

## PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS

- Degree can be completed online or in-person (in-state tuition for all online courses).
- Six different concentrations in homeland security and emergency management topics, which allow students to pick their specialty while staying up-to-date in the ever changing demands of the fields.
- Instructors have real-world, hands-on experience and students come from a variety of backgrounds, providing a diverse and unique learning experience.
- Utilize prior experience in a number of fields including: US&R training, military, emergency services (firefighting and paramedicine), law enforcement, process technology, cybersecurity, select FEMA trainings, occupational health and safety and healthcare.
- University of Alaska is a member of both the FEMA Emergency Management Higher Education Program and the Department of Homeland Security University and Agency Partner Initiative (UAPI).

## CHOOSE A CONCENTRATION













- Cybersecurity and Information Technology Management
- Emergency Management
- Emergency Medical and Public Health Management
- Fire Administration
- Homeland Security
- Law Enforcement Management

## APPLICATION PROCESS

1. Review the admission requirements at [www.uaf.edu/admissions/apply](http://www.uaf.edu/admissions/apply)
2. Scroll down and select the yellow 'Undergrad & grad application' button to begin the application
3. Application fee will be waived – enter "UAFSOM" at the point of payment
4. Contact our office to schedule an advising appointment and discuss how to transfer previously earned training credit to the University of Alaska.

## MASTER OF SECURITY AND DISASTER MANAGEMENT

### RECEIVE COLLEGE CREDIT FOR URBAN SEARCH AND RESCUE (US&R) TRAINING

	Course Name	College Credit Towards Major (Max 6 credits)	Credit Level
	Structural Collapse Specialist (Course Code 9P2630 & 9P2631 or Equivalent)	6.6 credit hours	400
	Canine Search Specialist (Course Code 9P1330 & 9P1331 or equivalent)	3 credit hours	400
	Medical Team Specialist (Course Code 9P3130 & 9P3131 or equivalent)	4.43 credit hours	400
	Logistics Team Specialist (Course Code 9P4130 & 9P4131 or equivalent)	3.825 credit hours	400
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	US&R Hazardous Materials Specialist (Course Code 9P5530 & 9P5531 or equivalent)	2.4 credit hours	400
	Enhanced Operations in the Contaminated Environment (Course Code 9G5410 & 9G5420)	1 credit hour	400
	ICS 400 – Advanced ICS for Command and General Staff	1.13 credit hours	400

- **ALL MSDM GRADUATE COURSES OFFERED ONLINE**
- **FIVE DIFFERENT GRADUATE CONCENTRATIONS**

**NOTE:** Up to six 400-level or graduate-level credits may be transferred from any combination of the US&R courses, National Fire Academy, FBI National Academy, Command and General Staff College, or similar programs approved by the American Council on Education.

- Classes are offered 100% online format and accommodate shift work and Kelly Shift Schedules
- Degree Requirements: Students must earn 30 graduate-level credits

Credit Hours	Required Master of Security and Disaster Management (MSDM) Major Courses
3	Legal Aspects of Homeland Security and Emergency Management (HSEM F601)
3	Disaster Management Policy (HSEM F603)
3	Vulnerability and Protection (HSEM F607)
3	Human Security (HSEM F609)
3	Security and Disaster Management (HSEM F690)
9	Complete 3 courses in one of these Concentrations
6	Students may use previously completed US&R training to meet these 400 Level elective credit hours.
<b>30</b>	<b>Total of 30 credit hours for MSDM graduate degree</b>

## CHOOSE A CONCENTRATION

### Arctic Security - Complete the following:

- Circumpolar Competition-Arctic Diplomacy and Defense (HSEM F621)
- Arctic Strategies and Operations (HSEM F622)
- Security and Disaster Management Seminar (HSEM F692)

### Business Continuity - Complete three of the following:

- Project Management (HSEM F632)
- Crisis Management (HSEM F645)
- Business Continuity and Risk Assessment (HSEM F646)
- Business Continuity Audit (HSEM F647)

### Cybersecurity - Complete the following:

- Information Assurance and Risk Assessment (HSEM F641)
- Cyber Threats and Vulnerabilities (HSEM F642)
- Perspectives in Addressing Cybersecurity & Critical Infrastructure (HSEM F643)

### Disaster Management - Complete three of the following:

- Community Planning in Emergency Management (HSEM F605)
- International Disaster Management (HSEM F613)
- Project Management (HSEM F632)
- Strategic Collaboration (HSEM F665)

### Strategic Leadership - Complete the following:

- Project Management (HSEM F632)
- Strategic Leadership (HSEM F656)
- Strategic Collaboration (HSEM F665)

## APPLICATION PROCESS

1. Review the MSDM admission requirements at [www.uaf.edu/som/degrees/graduate/msdm/admission-requirements](http://www.uaf.edu/som/degrees/graduate/msdm/admission-requirements)
2. Review the general UAF admission requirements at [www.uaf.edu/admissions/apply](http://www.uaf.edu/admissions/apply)
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