pennsylvania
EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT AGENCY

PEMA Circular

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Subject:
College Degree Opportunities in Homeland Security and Emergency Management

Scope:
All Persons Interested in a Homeland Security or Emergency Management College Degree

Distribution:
Pennsylvania State Fire Commissioner
PEMA Deputy Directors
PEMA Chief Counsel
PEMA Legislative Liaison
PEMA Bureau/Office Directors
www.pema.state.pa.us

By Direction of:

Robert P. French
Director, PA Emergency Management Agency
and Pennsylvania Homeland Security Advisor

I. PURPOSE

To provide guidance for personnel who are considering a college degree in emergency management (EM), homeland security (HS), or other related fields.

II. FINDING AN INSTITUTION

The decision to pursue a college degree is an individual one. The person considering a degree should research the possibilities carefully and look at all the options. The information sources provided in this circular provide basic information regarding the institutions of higher learning that offer degrees in HS and/or EM. Personnel considering pursuing a degree are encouraged to conduct their own research to ensure the degree meets their needs. Earning a degree can enhance your promotion potential or make you more marketable in the EM or HS fields. Personnel considering a degree in these fields may begin their search through various web pages that provide information on these educational opportunities.

A. Information regarding institutions that provide associate, bachelor, masters, and doctoral degrees, as well as certificate programs can be found at the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) website: http://training.fema.gov/EMIWeb/edu/collegelist/.

B. Many persons cannot leave work for several years to complete a degree program. An option available to attain a degree while working is distance learning. Information regarding schools that have distance learning programs for HS and EM can be found at FEMA's Emergency Management Institute's website: http://training.fema.gov/EMIWeb/edu/collegelist/dl/.

Comments and Questions Regarding this Circular Should be Directed to:
Mr. Robert Anspach, Office of the Director, 717-651-2739

C. In today's world, EM personnel assist with international disaster and humanitarian relief programs. Information regarding colleges and universities providing international disaster and humanitarian relief courses can be found at: http://training.fema.gov/EMIWeb/edu/collegelist/internationaldrh/.