

# BACHELOR OF SCIENCE IN FIRE SCIENCE

## SCHOOL OF CRIMINAL JUSTICE



### A DEGREE THAT COULD HELP YOU ADVANCE

Prepare to use your talent and drive to advance your career, while you serve the public with the help of Kaplan University's fire science program.<sup>1</sup> Kaplan University's Bachelor of Science in Fire Science is designed to provide in-depth knowledge of interagency coordination, fire incident command, arson investigation, and life safety education. Expertise in these areas could help you pursue higher level positions in the fire department.<sup>2</sup> And, Kaplan University's online classes offer the flexibility that fire service professionals need.

### WHAT'S INSIDE:

- ▶ Career Outcomes
- ▶ Curriculum Highlights
- ▶ Kaplan University Overview

Students, alumni, faculty, and staff are eligible for a 10% tuition reduction. For more information, visit [cc.kaplan.edu](http://cc.kaplan.edu) or call 866.397.9456 (Toll Free).



## FIRE DEPARTMENTS NEED KNOWLEDGEABLE LEADERS

Today's fire departments are increasingly seeking candidates with college-level knowledge in the area of fire science.<sup>2</sup> To prepare for higher level positions, it is important to keep up with changing firefighting technology, procedures, and tactics.

While an associate's degree is a good start, a bachelor's degree could offer more leadership opportunities. In fact, departments may require candidates for positions higher than battalion chief to hold a bachelor's in fire science or a related field in order to be considered for promotion.<sup>2</sup>

According to the Bureau of Labor Statistics, national long-term job growth for firefighting occupations is expected be 17 percent from 2008 through 2018, which is faster than the average for all occupations.<sup>2</sup>



## A BACHELOR'S DEGREE COULD HELP YOU PURSUE ADVANCED OPPORTUNITIES

A Bachelor of Science in Fire Science from Kaplan University could help current fire service professionals advance to higher level positions in fire departments and private industry. Graduates could have the potential to advance through the fire department chain of command, from firefighter to driver/operator, lieutenant or captain, battalion chief, deputy chief, assistant chief, or even fire chief.

To qualify for these positions, candidates may be required to have a bachelor's degree in fire science, public administration, or a related field.<sup>2</sup>

Graduates of the bachelor's degree program could pursue a career in these environments:

- Fire stations/departments
- National parks and forests
- Private industry fields such as insurance companies

### DAY-TO-DAY ACTIVITIES MAY VARY, BUT THESE ARE SOME POSSIBLE TASKS THAT GRADUATES MAY PERFORM, LISTED BY OCCUPATION:<sup>1</sup>

- **Firefighter**—Respond to emergency calls of all types, including fires, motor vehicle accidents, and fire and emergency rescue operations. Fight fires and provide other emergency and life-saving assistance as needed.
- **Forest fire inspector and prevention specialist**—Examine the interior and exterior of buildings and structures for fire hazards. Ensure that fire codes are followed by builders or owners, and that fire safety equipment is operable, maintained, and inspected.
- **Sales**—Sell and install fire protection and prevention equipment.
- **Fire investigator**—Work with police or fire departments to investigate incidents of potential arson and determine the causes and origins of fires.
- **Insurance investigator**—Investigate possible arson incidents for insurance companies. Discover the cause or origin of a fire to determine if deliberate or accidental.

A different school of thought.®



# PROGRAMS BUILT ON REAL-WORLD NEEDS

Our training division, Kaplan University's School of Professional and Continuing Education, is at the forefront of fire service education and provides firefighters and emergency medical services (EMS) personnel the continuing education needed to maintain certifications and licensures, partnering with the International Association of Firefighters (IAFF) and the International Fire Service Training Association (IFSTA). And now, Kaplan University's bachelor's degree in fire science offers fire service professionals an opportunity to expand their knowledge of the field. Closely based on the Fire and Emergency Services Higher Education (FESHE) national curriculum model, Kaplan University's degree program is designed to provide graduates with an in-depth understanding of fire science. Taught by our experienced faculty members, many who are fire service professionals, course are designed to help students develop real-world knowledge on subjects that include fire protection, firefighting technology, fire investigation, and emergency services.

## Students will have the opportunity to study the following:

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

## Transfer Credit

We are committed to helping you save time and money as you earn your bachelor's degree. If you have an associate's degree, you could earn your bachelor's degree in as little as 2 years of full-time study. In addition, you may be eligible to receive college credit for prior coursework, formal training courses, or work and life experiences.<sup>3</sup>

## Accelerated Master's Degree Option for Bachelor's Degree Students

Eligible students in this bachelor's degree program who want to continue on to pursue a master's degree within the School of Criminal Justice or School of Legal Studies may be interested in the accelerated master's degree option. Students complete graduate-level courses within this undergraduate plan of study. Once accepted to the master's degree program, students transfer in the graduate courses and matriculate into a shortened degree plan. This accelerated option allows students to complete both their bachelor's degree and master's degree in less time and at a lower cost than completing both programs separately. Speak to an Academic Advisor for more details upon enrollment in this bachelor's degree program.



## HERE IS WHAT ONE INDUSTRY PROFESSIONAL HAS TO SAY

### Jake Rhoades<sup>4</sup>

• Assistant Fire Chief

“The fire service [industry] has been experiencing rapid changes, and the duties and responsibilities placed upon the individuals within each department must adapt and evolve to meet these new challenges. Formal education is critical to individual and departmental success in the future. A degree from Kaplan University could provide the formal education that an individual can immediately put to use in his/her department for the service of their community.”

# KAPLAN UNIVERSITY—A DIFFERENT SCHOOL OF THOUGHT®

## THE KAPLAN COMMITMENT<sup>SM</sup>—EXPERIENCE KAPLAN UNIVERSITY WITH NO TUITION OBLIGATION.

At Kaplan University, we are committed to your education, your goals—you. And, as part of our pledge to help you succeed, we're announcing a whole new way to try a Kaplan University degree program for yourself with no tuition obligation.

It's simple. You'll attend real classes for real credits. After an introductory period, if you decide we're right for you, and you meet our academic standards and other requirements, you'll continue on. If not, your obligation ends there. There's no tuition cost or other financial obligation.<sup>5</sup>

## WHY KAPLAN UNIVERSITY?

Our programs are designed to offer you the freedom to grow and pursue your goals. We offer:

- Online classes that allow you to study virtually anytime, anywhere you have an Internet connection.
- Personal Advisors to help you select the courses to meet your goals.
- Reduced tuition rates for active-duty servicemembers and veterans.<sup>6</sup>
- Scholarships for eligible Kaplan University students.<sup>6</sup>
- A portfolio development course that could help translate your work and life experiences into college credit.<sup>3</sup>

## Other Programs

### Kaplan University:

- › Bachelor of Science in Fire and Emergency Management
- › Master of Science in Homeland Security and Emergency Management

### School of Professional and Continuing Education:

- › EMS Training
- › Firefighter/OSHA Training

## Note From Dean

“Kaplan University’s School of Criminal Justice offers students cutting-edge courses in the growing field of public protective services. Degrees in fire science as well as fire and emergency management provide knowledge in modern technologies and practices. Our courses, based on the approved National Fire Academy curriculum, are designed to prepare students for entry into or advancement in fire or emergency service.”



Frank DiMarino, Dean  
School of Criminal Justice



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## IMPORTANT INFORMATION—PLEASE READ

For comprehensive consumer information, visit [online.kaplanuniversity.edu/consumer\\_info.aspx](http://online.kaplanuniversity.edu/consumer_info.aspx).

<sup>1</sup> Kaplan University’s programs are designed to prepare graduates to pursue employment in fields related to their subjects of study, such as the positions provided as examples. However, Kaplan University does not guarantee that graduates will be placed in any job, equipped to perform all the tasks noted, or eligible for job advancement opportunities. Additional training or certification may be required. In addition, job titles and responsibilities may vary from organization to organization.

<sup>2</sup> Source: Bureau of Labor Statistics, U.S. Department of Labor, Occupational Outlook Handbook, 2010-11 Edition, Firefighters, on the Internet at [www.bls.gov/oco/ocos329.htm](http://www.bls.gov/oco/ocos329.htm). National long-term projections may not reflect local and/or short-term economic or job conditions, and do not guarantee actual job growth.

<sup>3</sup> Associate’s and bachelor’s degrees and credits considered to be remedial, occupational, or specialized may not be accepted for transfer. Kaplan University does not guarantee the transferability of credit. Average completion time based on a full-time schedule. Programs will take longer for part-time students to complete. See University Catalog for Transfer of Credit Policy.

<sup>4</sup> This testimonial was solicited by Kaplan University. Views and opinions stated herein are the individual’s and not necessarily those of Kaplan University.

<sup>5</sup> Classes will count toward a student’s degree if satisfactorily completed. No credits are earned if the student withdraws during the introductory period. The introductory period is five weeks and begins day one of the student’s first academic term. If at any point during the introductory period a student chooses to opt out, he or she will have no other obligation to the University. Only available to new students; continuing students are not eligible.

<sup>6</sup> Tuition reduction may not be combined with scholarships, military discounts, tuition vouchers, and other discounts.