

Risk Management Program Overview

2 June 2022

Q&A Session

This webinar provided an overview of on the distance learning Risk Management Graduate Certificate Program available through the Notre Dame of Maryland University (NDMU). This year-long, graduate level training program prepares participants to provide thoughtful, evidence-based approaches to reduce vulnerability; minimize risk to achieve organizational goals; and to acquire the knowledge and skills most in demand for careers in this growing field. Presenters included Karen Miller (HQ POC for the program), Matt Shanks (LRD, recent NDMU program graduate, and special guest Dr. Charles Yoe (NDMU professor and author of Principles of Risk Analysis: Decision Making Under Uncertainty). Participants learned about the program application process and had the opportunity to ask questions.



This summary of the Question / Answer session of the webinar is not a transcription; questions and responses have been edited and reordered for clarity.

Application Process

Are there any pre-requisite courses applicants need to complete before applying for the program?

No pre-requisites are required from prospective students before applying to the program.

When are applications due?

Applications are due on 8 July 2022. Applicants should give themselves plenty of time to submit the application, because prior school transcripts are required, and some universities are slow to respond to transcript requests.

What is the graduate certificate program cost and how many people from USACE will receive funding to participate in the program?

The overall program cohort cost (six courses) is provided at a 25% discount through cooperation between NDMU and USACE. Headquarters provides funding for up to 25 students. The funds are then received by the District and processed the same as any other university sponsored training.

What academic year is the current program application for?

The upcoming application is for the 2022-2023 academic year. The program begins in late August 2022.

Additional Program Expectations & Information

Are participants still able to participate in the program if they have TDY assignments or previously scheduled leave?

There are homework assignments for classes that are to be completed on students' own time, so participation is still expected even when participants are on TDY or leave. The program can usually accommodate participants who are going to miss some time as long as course instructors know ahead of time, and in general adjustments can be made as needed. Once participants become used to the flow of the program, they can typically work ahead as well. Course instructors are always willing to work with participants where possible.

How many students are in each certificate cohort?

Cohorts are typically 15 to 25 students.

Can all of the coursework be completed on a government computer, or will a personal computer be required for specialized software?

Students should be able to complete coursework on any computer. After being accepted and enrolled into the program, if participants are planning on using a government computer, they should work with ACE-IT (CIO/G6) to get the [Palisades software](#) downloaded because downloading software can take a considerable amount of time and coordination. There is also a free version of the software that can be downloaded for use on personal computers. Personal computers are recommended by some former participants in the program to avoid any issues in working with ACE-IT.