Emergency Management

Department Information

- **Department Chair:** Jessica Jensen, Ph.D.
- **Department Location:** Minard Hall
- **Department Phone:** (701) 231-5595
- **Department Web Site:** www.ndsu.edu/emgt/ (http://www.ndsu.edu/emgt/)
- **Application Deadline:** Applications are reviewed on a rolling schedule.
- **Credential Offered:** Ph.D., M.S.
- **Test Requirement:** GRE (All applicants who have not completed a master's degree in the United States.)
- **English Proficiency Requirements:** TOEFL iBT 71, IELTS 6

The Department of Emergency Management at NDSU welcomes applicants of any and all backgrounds to its master's degree program—comprehensive study option. This option may be completed on campus or at a distance, remote "live". Remote "live" means you can complete your coursework at the same day and time as our on campus students but from wherever you live!

The Department of Emergency Management at NDSU is more selective in choosing graduate applicants for entry into the master's program—thesis option—and the doctoral program. Admission is competitive reflecting the department's commitment to small, high quality, student cohorts that match the mentoring capacity of the faculty.

Applicants will be evaluated in a two-stage process. In the first stage, the applicant's Graduate School application, letters of reference, GRE scores (if applicable), and academic writing paper samples will be reviewed by the Department of Emergency Management faculty. Applicants demonstrating goodness-of-fit with the Department of Emergency Management's mission and goals and an aptitude for graduate study will be invited to complete the second stage of the admissions process.

**Admissions Process**

The two-stage admissions process for graduate studies in the Department of Emergency Management is as follows:

**STAGE ONE**

1. Applicants must first complete the Graduate School's online application form (https://app.applyyourself.com/AYApplicantLogin/fl_ApplicantConnectLogin.asp?id=ndsusndsugr) and submit the required materials.
2. Applicants must submit transcripts from the higher education institutions they have attended to the Graduate School.
3. Applicants must submit three letters of reference through the Online Application tool. Academic references are preferred.
4. All applicants who have not completed a master's degree in the United States must submit GRE scores. If an applicant has completed a master's degree in the United States, then GRE scores are not required but still strongly recommended. It is helpful to have as much data as possible about applicants and their aptitude for graduate work in our program. In no case are specific GRE discipline tests required. At this time, however, no specific score totals are used as a cutoff. Applications are evaluated holistically using all indicators of student aptitude for successful completion of graduate study in this program. Applicants must submit GRE scores by requesting that ETS-GRE (http://www.ets.org/gre/) send the NDSU Graduate School their score. **NOTE: While GRE testing centers remain closed due to COVID-19, the Department has suspended the GRE requirement. The requirement will automatically resume once testing centers reopen.**
5. Applicants must submit electronic copies of two writing samples through the Online Application tool. The samples may be a publication, material from prior course work, or specifically written for this application. The samples do not have to focus on emergency management or disasters. The samples must be written in English. Writing samples are used to gain information on the applicant's writing style and ability to write research-based papers. Samples submitted in support of an application would ideally be eight or more pages in length. In addition, to meet the objective of the admission criteria, the paper must employ formal citations. Writing samples will most typically be library-based research papers but papers based on original data gathering are also encouraged. The latter might be more likely to come from an applicant with a master's degree.

**STAGE TWO**
1. Applicants invited to participate in the second stage of the admissions process will take part in a conference call interview with two or more of the program faculty. Applicant interviews are designed to provide two-way communication between the faculty and prospective applicant. Faculty will ask questions but will also want the applicant to pose questions about the program and departmental educational objectives. The interview should assist the applicant and faculty to further assess the goodness-of-fit between the program and the applicant.

**Financial Assistance**

Both teaching and research assistantships are available, contingent on departmental and faculty research funds. All students are automatically considered for graduate assistantships, unless they request otherwise, so no separate application process is required for such consideration. Awards are based on past academic and professional performance. The review process is highly competitive.