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OAS – Government of Chile Scholarship and Training Project for CARICOM Countries

First Call for Applications



Disaster Field Operations Course at the Florida International University through its Academy for International Disaster Preparedness

DISASTER FIELD OPERATIONS COURSE

▼ COURSE DESCRIPTION AND BENEFITS OF PARTICIPATING IN THE COURSE

The Course is intended to provide participants with the knowledge and skills necessary to engage in an international disaster response, in a real to life field settings. Participants will gain the understanding of the frameworks in the humanitarian disaster field and will focus on practical and complex issues that arise during a disaster, including situation assessments, field cluster sampling, search and rescue, water, sanitation and hygiene, personal security, food aid, shelter and site planning, field reporting, media relations, working in teams, problem solving, conflict resolution, and operational approaches to relations with the military, NGOs, and government officials.

▼ PROFILE OF PARTICIPANTS

The Course is intended for working professionals who have backgrounds or work related duties in emergency management and disaster response. These professions include first responders in fire, law enforcement and EMS, public administrators, emergency management employees, policy makers and program directors, urban planners, NGOs, public health workers and private sector professionals.

▼ COURSE LOCATION, DATES & DETAILS

Students will be deployed to an undisclosed site in South Florida to participate in this full-scale field exercise. The students must be prepared to deploy at 8:00 AM on Friday, July 13 at the main MMC FIU campus (11200 SW 8th Street Miami, Florida 33199). Exercise will conclude approximately 12:00 PM on Sunday, July 15.

The students will deploy to an international disaster as a member of a disaster response team. They will work in a sleep-deprived, physically demanding and austere environment, replicating many of the key elements of an international response. Throughout the exercise the team will focus on practical issues that arise in the disaster field environment, such as, conducting assessments, situation reporting, communications, personal and team security, food security and shelter, WaSH (water, sanitation and hygiene), and meeting with local and national government officials. The students will also draft and present a humanitarian aid delivery proposal in a UN Cluster meeting designed to address the needs of the impacted community. Lastly, students will learn how to operate safely around a helicopter and marine vessels while conducting remote location damage assessments.

Required Textbooks:

1. The Sphere Handbook: Humanitarian Charter and Minimum Standards in Humanitarian Response (2011) (open source):
<http://www.sphereproject.org/resources/?keywords=&language=0&type=&aid=&mid=&category=22&subcat-22=23&search=1&page=7>
2. USAID Field Operations Guide for Disaster Assessment and Response, Version 4.0 (2005), USAID (open source): https://www.usaid.gov/sites/default/files/documents/1866/fog_v4_0.pdf
3. United Nations Disaster Assessment and Coordination (UNDAC) Field Handbook, 6th Edition (2013) (open source): <https://reliefweb.int/report/world/undac-field-handbook-6th-edition-2013>

University Contact Information:

Please visit the following link to see a preview of the field component: [Disaster Field Course Preview](#). For more specific questions about the Course please contact Ms. Dulce Boza at dboza@fiu.edu.

▼ SCHOLARSHIP OVERVIEW

COURSE:	<u>Disaster Field Operations</u>
MODALITY:	Onsite, Florida, United States
LANGUAGE:	English
DURATION:	3 days
DEADLINE:	June 27, 2018
START AND END DATE:	July 13 to July 15

▼ SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATION PROCESS

To apply for the scholarship, applicants must complete an OAS online scholarship application form and attach the required supporting documents listed below:

1. One (1) recommendation letter from employer / institution in sponsoring country.
 - a. The letter must include the letterhead of the institution / employer, the position of the referee, date and signature. The recommendation letter should be addressed to the OAS Scholarship and Training Programs, Department of Human Development, Education and Employment.
2. Response to essay question - *Describe how participating in this course will enhance your professional skills, and directly impact institution, community and country.*
 - a. The essay should be no more than two pages; written in size 12 times new roman font and double-spaced.
3. Cover letter detailing relevant work experience in the area of study.
4. Curriculum vitae or resume.
5. Copy of a government issued ID (passport or national ID Card).

Please note the following:

- All documents must be in English or official translated to English.
- **ALL** the required documents must be combined into **one (1) single PDF file (no larger than 5MB)**. If the file is larger than 5MB, the application system would not accept the file and does allow for more than one document to be uploaded.
- **Only complete applications will be considered**

[**Click here to access for the online scholarship application Form**](#)

▼ SCHOLARSHIP BENEFITS AND EXPENSES NOT COVERED

SCHOLARSHIP BENEFITS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Full tuition, which includes meals, uniforms, transportation costs and housing for the Course. ✓ The cost of one round-trip economy class airfare to and from Miami; ✓ One or two nights at a hotel in Miami; and ✓ Travel insurance;
FINANCIAL RESPONSIBILITY OF SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENTS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ⊗ Books and study materials; ⊗ Visa charges (if applicable); ⊗ Health insurance; and ⊗ Any additional living and study costs.

⊗ *These above expenses listed as financial responsibility shall be the sole and exclusive responsibility of the scholarship recipients.*

▼ ELIGIBILITY

To be considered for this scholarship opportunity, an applicant must:

- Submit a complete scholarship application with all required supporting documents; and
- Be a citizen and/or permanent legal resident of a [CARICOM](#) country that is an [OAS member State](#).

The following applicants are ineligible:

- ⊗ Current OAS scholarship recipients;
- ⊗ GS/OAS staff and their immediate relatives or GS/OAS consultants; and
- ⊗ OAS Permanent officials and their immediate relatives.

▼ SCHOLARSHIP SELECTION CRITERIA

- The merits and overall credentials of the candidate, including his/her academic and professional background; and
- Applicants whose essays portray the highest potential for impact upon return to their countries of origin.

▼ SCHOLARSHIP SELECTION PROCESS

- The OAS and FIU will select the scholarship awardees, based on the criteria listed above
- The OAS will contact selected candidates by email with the scholarship offer and instructions for the scholarship acceptance form. **Applicants who are not selected will not be contacted.**

▼ DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITY OF THE SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENT

- This scholarship will be formally awarded only after the selected awardees have signed a scholarship acceptance form, in which the awardees formally accept the scholarship and agree to its terms and conditions.
- Refrain from activities that are inconsistent with the status of an OAS Scholarship recipient, abiding by the regulations referred to in this Acceptance Form.
- Comply with the provisions indicated in the "Financial responsibilities of Scholarship Recipients"
- Commitment to return to work in their sponsoring country or permanent legal residence at the end of the Course. Failure to comply with this commitment, the GS/OAS and/or the FIU could seek reimbursement for the total value of the scholarship awarded.

▼ SCHOLARSHIP CONTACT INFORMATION

Questions about this scholarship opportunity should be sent to scholarships@oas.org with the subject "OAS-Chile Scholarship Program."

▼ FOR MORE INFORMATION



www.oas.org/scholarships



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