

HOMELAND SECURITY DEFENSE CERTIFICATE (GRADUATE)

The Homeland Defense Graduate Certificate focuses on the defense of the United States and its interests abroad, aligning with the mission of Homeland Defense (HD) and its Lead Federal Agency, the U.S. Department of Defense (DOD). This program examines the active protection and preparedness of the nation's people, territory, infrastructure, and values against physical, kinetic, and cyber threats posed by nation-states and terrorist organizations. A key component of Homeland Defense is Defense Support of Civil Authorities (DSCA), which explores the legal and operational role of the DOD in assisting communities before, during, and after disasters. This certificate program delves into DSCA's activities, resources, and capabilities, ensuring students gain a comprehensive understanding of how the military supports civilian authorities in times of crisis. Courses are designed and taught by experienced emergency and security professionals with direct experience in Homeland Defense and civil support operations. Graduates of this program will gain a deep understanding of the missions, resources, and capabilities of the DOD and National Guard units across all 54 U.S. states and territories, preparing them to contribute to national defense and disaster response efforts.

This certificate can be earned as a standalone or it can be stacked into the MPS in Homeland Security Studies or MPA in Emergency Management.

Requirements

Course ID	Title	Credits
Required Courses:		
ESSC 6002	Critical Infrastructure Protection	3
ESSC 6004	Homeland Defense and Defense Support of Civil Authorities	3
ESSC 6018	Approaches to Counter Terrorism	3
Elective Options (Choose One):		3
ESSC 6012	Physical Protection Systems	
ESSC 6017	Sport/Event Security and Response	
ESSC 7001	Cyber Threats and Homeland Security	
Total Credit Hours		12

Program String and Field of Study: PACER_GR, HMLD

Catalog Addendum Note: This program was added to the catalog on 6/17/2025.

Contact

For more information, contact the School of Professional Advancement (<https://sopa.tulane.edu/degrees-programs/certificates/>).