



TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY

The Bush School

of Government & Public Service

Graduate Certificate in Homeland Security (CHLS) Available Online

The graduate Certificate in Homeland Security (CHLS) is designed for students from a wide variety of academic and professional backgrounds. It combines a broad understanding of homeland security issues and strategies at the national level with an in-depth analysis of key security issues affecting federal, state, and local government, as well as the private and nonprofit sectors.

Overview

- 15 Credit Hour Graduate Certificate Program
- Courses Offered Online or On Campus
- Fall and Spring Fifteen-Week Courses, Summer Ten-Week Courses
- Successful Completion Appears on Texas A&M Transcript
- Can Often Transfer Credits to a Degree-Seeking Master's Program
- 12 Hours Transferrable to a Bush School Master's Degree

Course Format

Online courses offer a flexible and interactive format allowing students to log into their classes at a time that is convenient to them. The online format typically requires online discussion several times a week along with essays and other projects throughout the semester. Weekly deadlines are outlined in the course syllabus. All online courses fall under 700 section numbers.

On-campus courses at College Station are offered during a traditional fifteen-week semester, typically meeting once a week for three hours. Note: On-campus courses often fill up quickly since priority goes to Bush School degree-seeking master's students.

Curriculum

To receive a graduate Certificate in Homeland Security (CHLS), a student must be admitted into the program prior to beginning course work for the certificate and complete 15 credit hours of CHLS courses with an overall GPA of 3.0 or higher.

One core curriculum course is required: **PSAA 656/INTA 656 Fundamentals of Homeland Security**. Students have the option of selecting an emphasis area (see below). Those who do not select an emphasis area may tailor their own certificate and choose four electives from a variety of options.

Note: Students may take one approved Certificate in Advanced International Affairs (CAIA) course to count toward their CHLS.

Optional Emphasis Areas

CHLS students have the option of choosing an area of emphasis. Though selecting an emphasis area is not required, doing so may prove beneficial for future employment since the emphasis will be noted on The Bush School certificate upon successful completion of the CHLS program.

Students who choose an emphasis are required to take the core course and four emphasis-specific courses listed under the area they have chosen.

Students may obtain multiple emphasis areas by completing six additional hours of electives (two courses) while maintaining a 3.0 GPA or better. Additional courses taken for multiple emphasis areas are not financial aid eligible.

Emphasis Options

- National Security Policy and Management
- Emergency Management and Crisis Preparedness
- Critical Infrastructure Protection
- Border Security

Certificate Courses

Please note that each course is not offered every semester, which may affect completion time for an optional emphasis.

Core Course

- PSAA 656/ INTA 656 Fundamentals of Homeland Security* (*required for all students*)

Electives (*listed by emphasis area*)

National Security Policy and Management

- PSAA 605 Homeland Security Policies, Strategies and Operations
- PSAA 620 Safeguarding the Nation's Maritime Gateways
- PSAA 651/INTA 602 Homeland Security and Homeland Defense
- PSAA 652/INTA 614 Protection of the Nation's Critical Infrastructure
- PSAA 655/INTA 687 Domestic Intelligence Operations: Legalities, Policies and Procedures
- PSAA 657/INTA 657 Terrorism in Today's World
- PSAA 660 Domestic Terrorism: The Internal Threat to America (in-residence only)
- PSAA 668/INTA 612 U.S. Law and Homeland Security
- INTA 659 Transnational Security Issues (CAIA course)

Emergency Management and Crisis Preparedness

- PSAA 604/INTA 639 Emergency Management and Homeland Security
- PSAA 605 Homeland Security Policies, Strategies and Operations
- PSAA 651/INTA 602 Homeland Security and Homeland Defense
- PSAA 652/INTA 614 Protection of the Nation’s Critical Infrastructure
- PSAA 658 Disaster Recovery and Business Continuity
- PSAA 668/INTA 612 U.S. Law and Homeland Security
- PSAA 660 Domestic Terrorism: The Internal Threat to America (in-residence only)

Critical Infrastructure Protection

- PSAA 605 Homeland Security Policies, Strategies and Operations
- PSAA 608 Cybersecurity Policy, Issues and Operations – A Manager’s Guide
- PSAA 652/INTA 614 Protection of the Nation’s Critical Infrastructure (*highly recommended*)
- PSAA 653/INTA 619 Weapons of Mass Destruction
- PSAA 655/INTA 687 Domestic Intelligence Operations: Legalities, Policies and Procedures
- PSAA 660 Domestic Terrorism: The Internal Threat to America (in-residence only)
- PSAA 668/INTA 612 U.S. Law and Homeland Security

Border Security

- PSAA 620 Safeguarding the Nation’s Maritime Gateways
- PSAA 651/INTA 602 Homeland Security and Homeland Defense
- PSAA 654/INTA 683 U.S. Border Security: Policies, Strategies and Issues (*required*)
- PSAA 658 Disaster Recovery and Business Continuity
- PSAA 660 Domestic Terrorism: The Internal Threat to America (in-residence only)
- PSAA 668/ INTA 612 U.S. Law and Homeland Security
- INTA 659 Transnational Security Affairs (CAIA course)

Contact an enrollment advisor for upcoming semester course offerings:
bushschoolonline@tamu.edu or 1-866-988-2874.

Federal Financial Aid Opportunities

Students admitted to the Bush School Certificate in Homeland Security program are eligible to receive federal financial aid for the one core/required course and four elective courses. To be eligible for federal financial aid the student must be enrolled in at least two courses in the fall and spring semesters and at least one course in the summer semesters.

Students may take additional courses for their certificate (or for multiple emphasis areas). However, additional courses are not financial aid eligible.

Application Instructions

1. Submit Application

New students complete the [Texas A&M GraduateCAS application](https://texasam2024.liaisoncas.com/applicant-ux/#/login) and complete all required fields: <https://texasam2024.liaisoncas.com/applicant-ux/#/login>

Current Texas A&M University Students (U4, U5 with a 3.0 GPA or Graduate Classification) concurrently enrolled in a degree-seeking program while pursuing the certificate must complete the Certificate Program Internal Application. Do **NOT** complete the GraduateCAS application.

Internal Application:

https://tamu.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_9ZWB2J8iNAmWRGR.

2. Personal Statement (*all applicants*)

Applicant must include a statement of approximately 500 words indicating personal interest in some area of homeland security and how s/he might use an enhanced knowledge of this subject. Applicant must also include any courses taken that dealt with homeland security.

Applicant should include a description of professional experiences in any of these areas: emergency management, military, national security, crisis preparedness, cyber security etc.

Must be uploaded to the online GraduateCAS application in order to submit your application. If you need to update your statement after you have submitted your application, you can email it to the Office of Extended Education by the application deadline at bushschoolonline@tamu.edu

3. Resume (*all applicants*)

Must be uploaded to the online GraduateCAS application in order to submit your application. If you need to update your resume after you have submitted your application, you can email it to the Office of Extended Education by the application deadline at bushschoolonline@tamu.edu

4. Transcripts (Unofficial Transcripts AND Official Transcripts**)**

Unofficial Transcripts: Please upload unofficial transcripts to the online application. Transcripts uploaded to GraduateCAS will be considered unofficial transcripts. If your application is submitted without unofficial transcripts you will be asked to email them to bushschoolonline@tamu.edu. **Applications will not be reviewed without unofficial transcripts.**

Official transcripts from all four-year colleges/universities attended for undergraduate course work must be sent directly from the issuing university to the Office of Graduate Admissions at Texas A&M University:

Graduate Admissions Processing
Texas A&M University
P.O. Box 40001
College Station, TX 77842-4001

Official transcripts for graduate course work and/or from junior colleges are not needed.

Electronic transcripts can be processed much faster than paper transcripts. Texas A&M will accept transcripts sent electronically through Parchment, SPEEDE, eScrip-SAFE or National Clearing House to admissions@tamu.edu. **Transcripts from any other vendor will not be accepted.** Official transcripts should only be sent to Admissions, NOT the Bush School.

International transcripts that are not provided in English will be required to submit a certified translation transcript.

All new students: You will not be able to register for classes until your official transcripts are received by the Office of Graduate Admissions at Texas A&M University

5. English Proficiency Test Scores

International Applicants are required to provide proof of English proficiency before materials can be reviewed. Acceptable forms of proof can be found at <https://admissions.tamu.edu/apply/international/international-graduate>

Questions? Contact a Graduate Program Consultant today!

Email: bushschoolonline@tamu.edu

Toll-Free Number: 1-866-988-2874 | Local Number: 1-979-862-7810

Website: <http://bush.tamu.edu/certificate/chls/>

For more information about completion rates, career options, and other important topics, please visit our websites:

[*Certificate in Advanced International Affairs*](#)

[*Certificate in Homeland Security*](#)

[*Certificate in Nonprofit Management*](#)

[*Certificate in Public Management*](#)

[*Executive Master of Public Service and Administration*](#)