



To: House Committee on Government Operations and Military Affairs
Senate Committee on Government Operations
From: Michael Schirling, Chief Safety & Compliance Officer
University of Vermont
Re: Report on Post-Secondary Disaster Management Program (S.310)
Date: January 24, 2025

Pursuant to S. 310 (p. 109) the University of Vermont is pleased to provide the General Assembly an update regarding development of a post-secondary disaster management program.

Prior to the 2023-2024 session and in the wake of catastrophic flooding that occurred throughout Vermont during the summer of 2023, University leaders began discussions of both projects and educational programs that were responsive to the State's evolving needs. Among the initiatives outlined was an interdisciplinary minor in Emergency Management.

Over the last several months teams from multiple colleges and operational units at the University have met and developed the core 18 to 20 credit curriculum.

We anticipate that the foundational course will be approved by the College of Agriculture and Life Sciences, and that the minor to be approved by College and University committees and presented to the Board of Trustees for approval at their May meeting. The target date for availability in the UVM catalog is the Fall of 2025.

At this stage we expect 20 to 25 students across multiple colleges and majors to enroll in this interdisciplinary minor. We will work to scale the program with demand.

Should you need any additional information, please do not hesitate to contact our team.