

KENTUCKY



FIRE COMMISSION
STATE FIRE RESCUE TRAINING

KENTUCKY FIRE COMMISSION
FY2023
ANNUAL REPORT





The Fire Commission would like to wish many congratulations to Director of Fleet/Maintenance Gilbert “Tiger” Robinson on his retirement. In addition to the Fleet position, Tiger previously served as Chairman of the Fire Commission Board, was an adjunct instructor for SFRT and worked as a CPAT proctor. Thank you Tiger, for your many years of dedication and service to the Fire Commission and the firefighters of the Commonwealth!



CONTACT INFORMATION

Phone

(800) 782-6823

Website

kyfirecommission.kctcs.edu

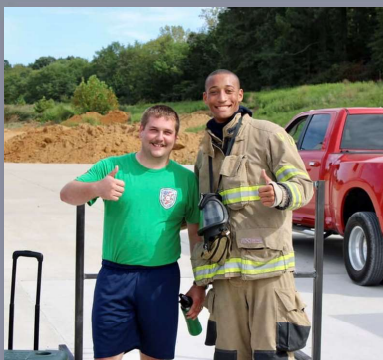
Social Media

 [KYFireCommission](#)

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MISSION STATEMENT

The Kentucky Fire Commission is committed to enhancing safety and education within the fire service for the citizens and industries within the Commonwealth through standardized special and technical education, training, communication, coordination and the distribution of funds to the agencies throughout the Commonwealth of Kentucky.



EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S MESSAGE



As another year flies by, this report reflects on the Fire Commission's accomplishments. Things like grants given to our Kentucky fire departments, training provided to both career and volunteer firefighters in our great state, progress of our continuing upgrade of fleet and facilities, success of our junior firefighter program, success of our Fire Academy, and information about our organization as a whole.

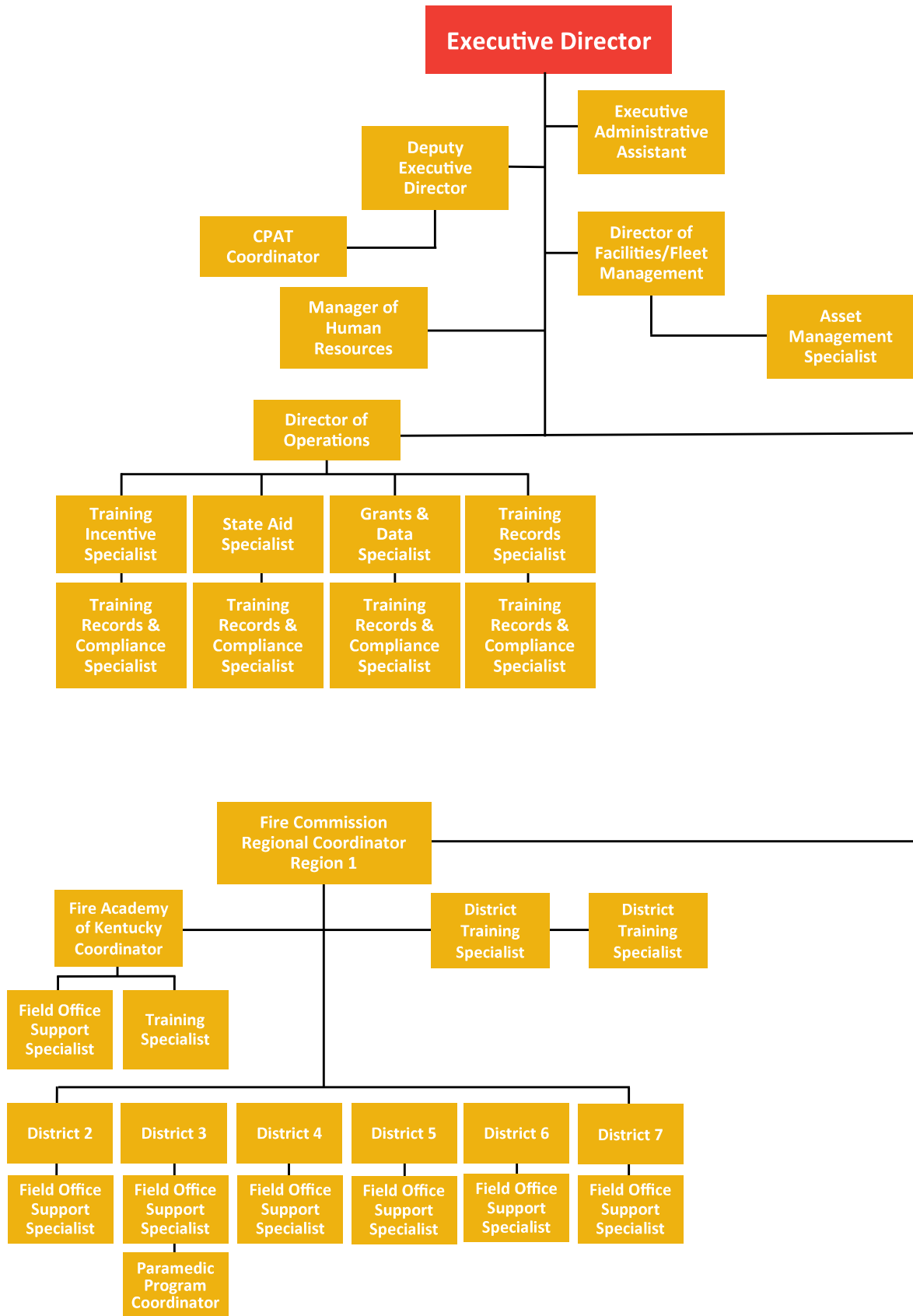
Take time to read about the Fire Commission and all that goes on here. We are here for "you" just like you are there for your communities. We at the Fire Commission will continue to support and take care of our fire departments and firefighters, but we need your con-

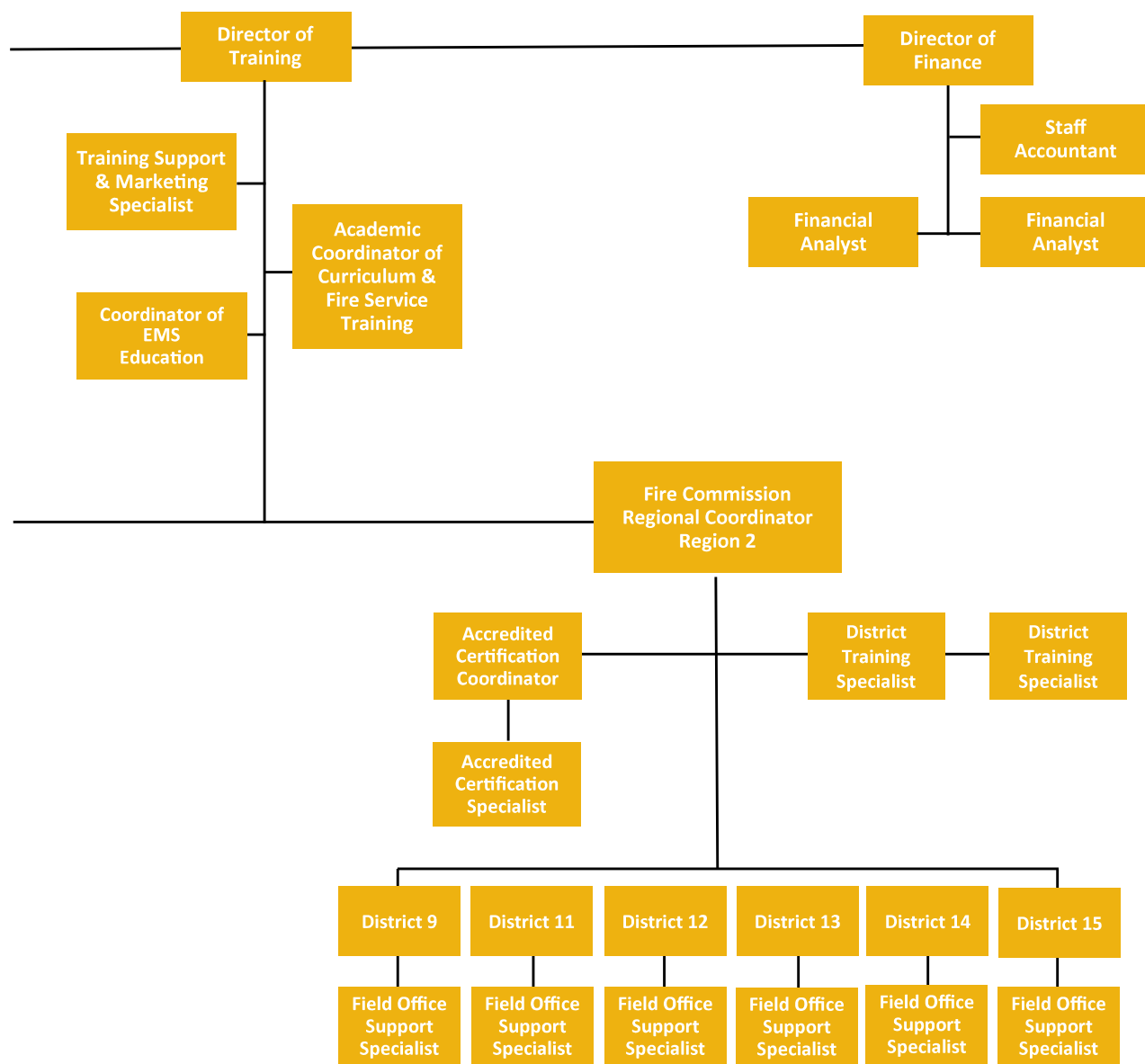
tinued support and input so that we only get better at serving you.

We are blessed in Kentucky to have a support system such as the Kentucky Fire Commission. I knew that as a Fire Chief, but until I became the Executive Director, I never knew the full extent of what the Fire Commission does. This report provides some insight into that for you. Everything that is accomplished can only be done with all of us working as a team to make things better. Myself and my team work every day to try to make things better to better serve you. We need your help to be able to do that. Thank you for all you do and stay safe.



ORGANIZATIONAL CHART





Committees of the Board

- ◆ Finance
- ◆ Public Education
- ◆ Loans
- ◆ Education
- ◆ Training Facilities
- ◆ Personnel
- ◆ Health & Wellness
- ◆ Eligibility
- ◆ EMS

FY2023 Board of Directors Representation

Chairman
Vice Chairman
Secretary

Ricky King
Andrew Scott
Lonnie Madden

Paid Fire Chiefs

Wayne Briscoe

County Judge Executive

Joe Choate

Volunteer Fire Chiefs

Lonnie Madden

Practicing Physician

Dr. Irvin Smith

County Fire Depts

Chris Black

Ofc Homeland Security

Josiah Keats

Volunteer Fire Depts

Dwane Smeathers

State Fire Marshal

Mike Haney

KRS 95 Fire Depts

Scott Lawson

Fire-Based EMS Services

Mike Sutt

KRS 75 or 273 Fire Depts

Ricky King

KY Firefighters Assn

Rick Bobo

General Public

Fr. Matthew Young

KY Professional FFs

Joe Baer

Mayors

Andrew Scott

KY Assoc of Fire Chiefs

Nathan Mulvey

Building & Safety

-VACANT-

KCTCS President

Dr. Larry Ferguson (Interim)



ADMINISTRATIVE STAFF

| | | |
|---|----------------|--|
| Executive Director | Larry Potter | larry.potter@kctcs.edu |
| Deputy Executive Director | Bruce Roberts | bruce.roberts@kctcs.edu |
| Director of Training | Marc Rudder | marc.rudder@kctcs.edu |
| Director of Finance | Brenda Goddard | brenda.goddard@kctcs.edu |
| Director of Facilities/Fleet Management | Derrick Hall | derrick.hall@kctcs.edu |
| Director of Operations | Jeremy Rodgers | jeremy.rodgers@kctcs.edu |
| Manager of Human Resources | Chase Niceley | chase.niceley@kctcs.edu |

SUPPORT STAFF

| | | |
|----------------------------|--|--|
| Mary Adams | Training Records Specialist | mary.adams@kctcs.edu |
| Eric Bach | Training Records & Compliance Specialist | eric.bach@kctcs.edu |
| Chuck Bonta | Training Records & Compliance Specialist | chuck.bonta@kctcs.edu |
| Lisa Bradley | Training Incentive Specialist | lbradley0017@kctcs.edu |
| Peggy Bryant | Financial Analyst | peggy.bryant@kctcs.edu |
| Ericka Cole | Training Support & Marketing Specialist | ericka.cole@kctcs.edu |
| Morgan Gaunce | State Aid Specialist | morgan.gaunce@kctcs.edu |
| Casey Hall | Curriculum/Degree Program Coordinator | casey.hall@kctcs.edu |
| Gary Hall | Coordinator of EMS Education | gary.hall@kctcs.edu |
| Adam Maulden | Training Records & Compliance Specialist | adam.maulden@kctcs.edu |
| Ashley McWaters | Training Records & Compliance Specialist | ashley.mcwaters@kctcs.edu |
| Delores Montgomery Collins | Financial Analyst | delores.montgomery@kctcs.edu |
| Tina Moore | Executive Administrative Assistant | tina.moore@kctcs.edu |
| Bonita Oldham | Grants & Data Specialist | bonita.oldham@kctcs.edu |
| Casey Smith | Staff Accountant | casey.smith@kctcs.edu |
| Richard Wright | Asset Management Specialist | richard.wright@kctcs.edu |



STATE FIRE SCHOOL

The 92nd edition of the Kentucky State Fire School was held June 8-11, 2023 in Lexington. The school was moved to a new instructional venue at the Fayette County School District's STEAM Academy. 481 students from 186 departments/agencies participated in 23 classes.

INCENTIVE & PENSION

The Incentive & Pension fund continues to supplement eligible local governments, plus an amount equal to the required employers contribution on the supplement to the defined benefit pension plan, or to a plan qualified under Section 401(1) or Section 457 of the Internal Revenue Code of 1954 as amended.

To be eligible for incentive pay, firefighters must have a minimum of 300 training hours, work at least 2,080 hours and earn at least \$8,000 annually. To maintain eligibility, all firefighters in the department must complete one hundred (100) hours of training annually. Eligible firefighters each received \$4,300 during FY2023 through this program.

Incentive and pension funds totaling \$25,375,380.05 were distributed to 4000 firefighters during FY2023.

HEPATITIS VACCINATIONS

During FY2023, the Fire Commission's voluntary Hepatitis vaccination program assisted in providing funds for 39 Hepatitis immunizations. The Fire Commission collaborates with local health departments in this program and sponsors Hepatitis A, Hepatitis B or a combination of both Hepatitis A/B vaccines for Kentucky's firefighters.

THERMAL IMAGING CAMERA GRANTS

It is the goal of the Kentucky Fire Commission to make sure every fire department throughout the Commonwealth has at least one thermal imaging camera. 152 departments were awarded thermal imaging cameras in FY2023.

TRAINING FACILITY GRANTS

The Fire Commission's Training Facility Grants program allows eligible and approved fire departments access to much needed funds to enhance their department's training program with facilities and equipment. This grant is offered every other year, with FY2024 being the next cycle.



FIRE DEPARTMENT COMPLIANCE INSPECTIONS

The Fire Commission continues to conduct compliance inspections of training and financial documentation, State-Aid and Incentive Pay disbursements, grant equipment and purchases, and department apparatus and equipment.

Our team of four Training Records & Compliance Specialists conducted 760 inspections during FY2023 and will continue to conduct annual inspections throughout the Commonwealth.

LOW INTEREST LOANS

The Low Interest Loan program is available for any volunteer fire department that meets certain criteria. Volunteer fire departments can borrow up to \$125,000. Funds in the amount of \$432,691 were distributed to 7 departments in FY2023.

STATE AID

The Fire Commission's State Aid program is available to all qualifying volunteer fire departments in the Commonwealth of Kentucky. During FY2023, the Kentucky Fire Commission allotted \$11,500 to each qualifying volunteer fire department throughout the Commonwealth.

In FY2023, 673 departments were awarded State Aid for a total of \$7,739,500. Monies must be allocated toward specific expenditures approved by the Fire Commission.

Funds are required to be spent in total each fiscal year. Departments may hold the entirety of the funds over into the following fiscal year to acquire enough funds for a more substantial project. Partial carryover is disallowed.

Funds may also be applied toward Fire Commission loan payments.

JUNIOR FIREFIGHTERS



The Junior Firefighter program allows youth ages 15-17 the opportunity to learn about fire and emergency services organizations in a safe, supervised, controlled and fun manner. There are 420 departmental junior programs registered in Kentucky.

The Fire Commission held a training weekend specific to junior firefighters July 2023 in Greenville, KY. 27 juniors from 13 departments participated. 28 junior firefighters participated in a junior firefighter class at State Fire School in June.



HEALTH AND WELLNESS

During FY2023, the Fire Commission's Health & Wellness Program funded the purchase of automated external defibrillators (AEDs) for qualifying fire departments of the Commonwealth. During this grant, 342 fire departments received devices totaling \$697,402.

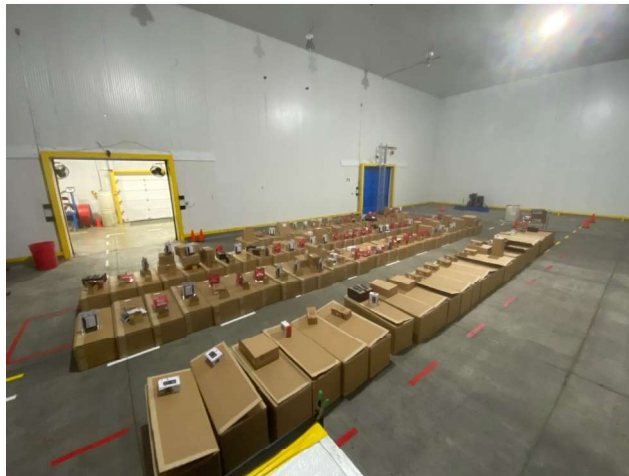


4-GAS METER GRANTS

The 4-Gas Meter Grant Program was established to assist qualifying fire departments with purchasing equipment to detect combustible gases on incident responses. Funding was allocated in FY2023 to purchase meters for 343 fire departments, for a cost of \$304,381.

BATTERY POWERED COMBI TOOL GRANTS

The Battery Powered Combi-Tool Grant Program was established to assist qualifying fire departments with purchasing hydraulic rescue equipment to use during rapid intervention extrication responses, confined spaces and remote locations where generator-power is unable to be used. In FY2023, 243 fire departments received these tools, with a total of \$2,883,000 spent.



KENTUCKY BASIC 1/BASIC 2 CERTIFICATIONS

On January 1, 2023, the Kentucky Fire Commission debuted their new Basic 1 and Basic 2 Kentucky certification levels. Firefighters completing the Basic 1 certification will be required to satisfy training hours requirements in select categories totaling 115 hours, while firefighters completing the Basic 2 certification are required to satisfy training hours in select categories totaling 300 hours, including completing required hands-on training during Firefighter Survival, Firefighter Rescue and Flashover. Equivalency credit is now offered for those firefighters working toward Kentucky certification who also possess select IFSAC accredited certifications.



PTSD TREATMENT REIMBURSEMENT

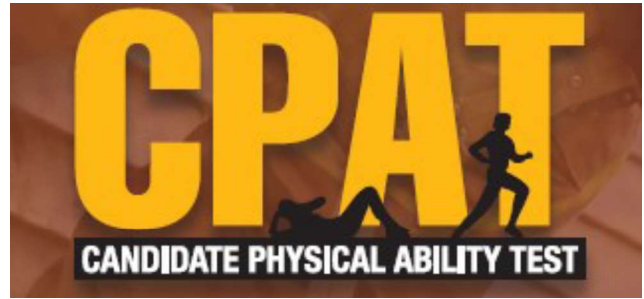
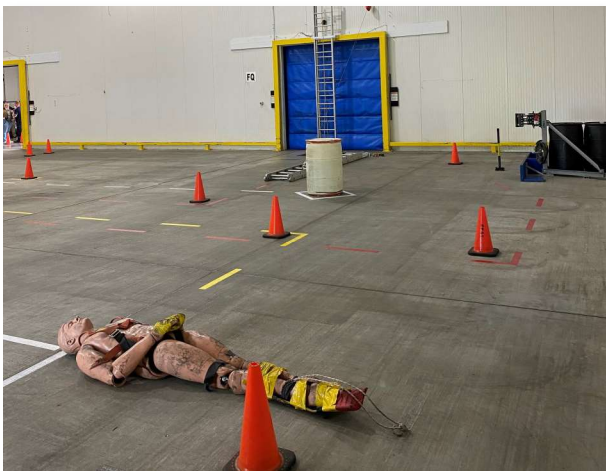
Firefighters have long been about helping others; these days more than ever, that includes fellow firefighters. The Kentucky Fire Commission is proud to offer a policy for post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD) or post-traumatic stress injury treatment reimbursement. This program establishes funds for reimbursement of out-of-pocket expenses that a firefighter has incurred after being diagnosed with PTSD through firefighting related experiences. Each qualifying individual may receive reimbursement benefits up to \$50,000 for care or treatment that was provided on or after July 1, 2020.

*No one should suffer with PTSD on their own.
If you are a firefighter struggling with this, or you know one who is,
please seek help from a licensed mental health professional.*

CPAT

Since 2013, administrative regulations in the state of Kentucky mandate all newly hired career firefighters pass the Candidate Physical Ability Test (CPAT). CPAT is set up to develop a fair and valid evaluation tool in the selection of firefighters to ensure that all firefighter candidates possess the physical ability to complete critical tasks effectively and safely. CPAT is a sequence of events requiring the participant to progress along a predetermined path from event to event in a continuous manner. Stations include: Stair Climb, Hose Drag, Equipment Carry, Ladder Raise and Extension, Forcible Entry, Search, Rescue and Ceiling Breach and Pull.

The Fire Commission has three fixed testing locations: in Burlington, Louisville and Paris.



36

Testing Sessions

1,157

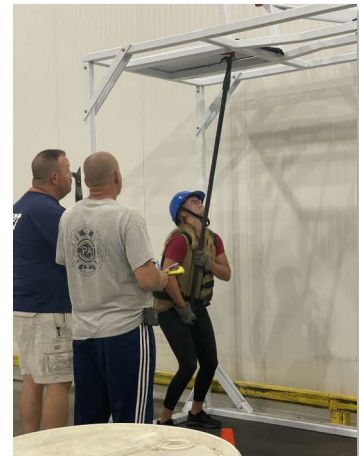
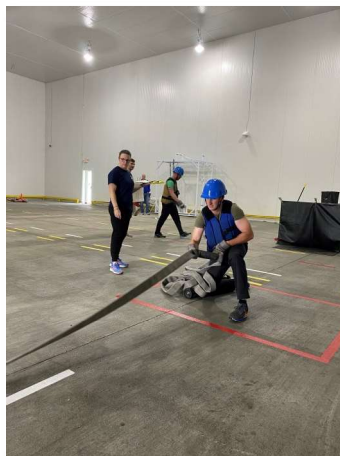
Candidates

740

Cards Issued

Rick Larkins

CPAT Coordinator



KYFIRES

The Kentucky Fire Information and Records Entry System (KyFIRES) portal allows for a more streamlined and user friendly training records tracking and management system to maximize efficiency, save money and simplify records input and information communication.

KyFIRES allows firefighters throughout the state to securely access their own training and certification records through any modern web browser. Training records are updated in real-time as soon as entry of the record is complete.

During FY2023, Accredited Certification written testing was implemented on an online platform utilizing KyFIRES. This platform allows the user to receive notification of their written test score immediately upon test completion, as well as providing a pass/fail summary of job performance requirements test categories.

Certification application software development was completed during FY2023, allowing applications for Kentucky Basic 1 and Basic 2 firefighter certifications to be created on the user level, providing a real-time status summary of certification training hour category fulfillment.



Kentucky Fire Information and Records Entry System



Applications*

[Request Certification](#)

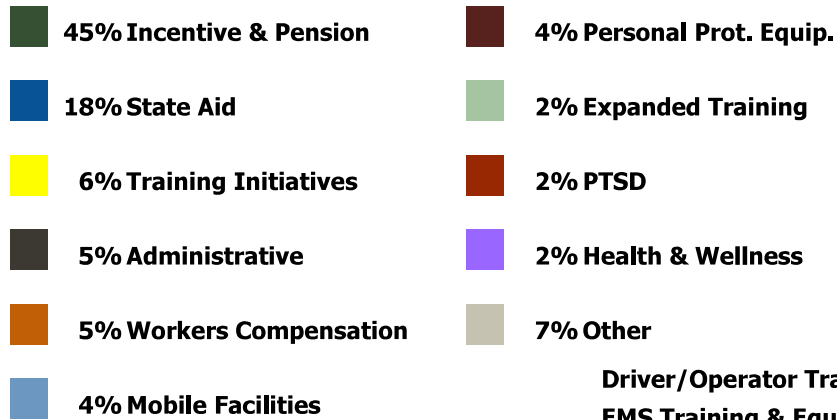
All applications* are displayed.



| Certification | Requested Action | Application* Date | Requirements | Complete | Incomplete | Progress | Status | |
|---------------------------------|------------------|-------------------|--------------|----------|------------|------------------------|-----------------------------|---|
| Kentucky Basic I Certification | Issue | 01/13/2023 | 32 | 20 | 12 | <div><div></div></div> | <input type="radio"/> Draft | Continue ⋮ |
| Kentucky Basic II Certification | Issue | 01/13/2023 | 35 | 11 | 24 | <div><div></div></div> | <input type="radio"/> Draft | Continue ⋮ |



BUDGETARY



Driver/Operator Training
 EMS Training & Equipment
 Fire Academy of Kentucky
 Hepatitis A/B Vaccinations
 NFA Weekends
 Safety Education
 Thermal Imaging Camera Grants
 Training Facility Grants
 WMD, HazMat, Terrorism Training





The 2023 Kentucky Legislative Session saw numerous bills related to Kentucky's fire service introduced. Representatives of Kentucky's fire service and the Kentucky Fire Commission continued their efforts to educate legislators, protect the interests of the Kentucky's fire service and campaign on behalf of moving the fire service of the Commonwealth forward. Several bills related to the fire service were passed through Committee and were ultimately passed into law:

SENATE

SB206: This act related to retirement funds of urban-county governments

SR56: This resolution to honor the fire districts serving in Jefferson County

HOUSE

HB5: This act related to property tax on distilled spirits

HB56: This act related to define "stress injury" to include post-traumatic stress disorder

HB157: This act related to creation of an urban search and rescue program

HB373: This act related to peace officer certification and included language regarding telecommunicator hiring qualifications

HB506: This act related to post-retirement options for state and local employees

BY THE NUMBERS

52

Paid Departments

328

150-hr Certifications Issued

87

Combination Departments

307

400-hour Certifications Issued

711

Volunteer Departments

476

Basic 1 Certifications Issued

4,007

Career Firefighters

166

Basic 2 Certifications Issued

14,458

Volunteer Firefighters

KENTUCKY
FIRE COMMISSION

FIREFIGHTER
SURVIVAL & RESCUE
HOUSE



"TRAINING TO SAVE LIVES"

STATE FIRE RESCUE TRAINING
AREA 7



IN MEMORIAM



The lives of Peter Cooper, Jerry Ferrell, T. Churchill “Church” Guthrie, Milt Nelson, David Pawley, Ernest Rudder, Mark Stewart, John Thornberry, James “Urey” Westerfield, and Joseph Wright were honored in October at the Kentucky Fallen Firefighter Memorial Service.





MISSION STATEMENT

The mission of Fire Rescue Training is to plan, direct and administer a quality, comprehensive and uniformly delivered training program through the most efficient use of available resources to assist in meeting the training needs of fire, rescue and other emergency services personnel so that lives and property may be saved more safely and effectively. In addition, to provide health and safety training programs for industries, institution, government agencies and other such entities to assist in meeting their training needs mandated by federal, state and local laws.

VISION

The vision of Fire Rescue Training is to be recognized as a national leader in providing comprehensive educational programs for current and future emergency responders at the local, regional, state and national levels.

STATE OF STATE FIRE RESCUE TRAINING

As we close out FY2023 and I begin my 9th year as the Director of Training, I continue to be amazed at the incredible work this organization and our team do. State Fire Rescue Training has embraced another busy year of training and program development and are busy making plans for FY2024.

After adjustments to SFRT-led training methods during the onset of Covid, FY2023 saw a return of training delivery and attendance to full pre-Covid levels. For the first time in two years, SFRT was pleased to host a full compliment of in-person training for the entire year for fire departments, regional fire schools, State Fire School, and our degree program, supplemented by our virtual instructor-led training program.

SFRT proudly serves first responders of the Commonwealth with high-quality training and education opportunities. From basic certification categories like ladders and communications, to the executive-level Fire Officer course series, SFRT offers a class for every level of firefighter. In FY2023, we added additional accredited certification levels, purchased state-of-the-art props which allow firefighters to mimic real-life scenarios in a safe training environment, and offered new and updated courses to further our curriculum package.

The debut of Recruit Class 001 at The Fire Academy of Kentucky in August brought to life a decade-long vision of the Fire Commission and State Fire Rescue Training. We are excited to now be able to offer the only statewide fire training academy in the Commonwealth, offering the opportunity for both career and volunteer firefighters to become introduced to the fire service, as well as expand on previous training, in order to better serve their departments and communities. Expansion projects continue at the Academy facility, and we look forward to opening the doors to our new training facility at that location.



As an organization, we owe a great deal of thanks to our employees. Our efforts and mission would not be successful without them. Numerous times a month I witness firsthand the commitment and dedication our SFRT instructors and staff possess. I am honored to work with a remarkable caliber of men and women. We will continue to fully commit our resources to provide Kentucky's fire service with exceptional training opportunities and superior, realistic training props. Investing in our firefighters is an investment to the future.

I would like to offer congratulations in their KCTCS retirement to SFRT District 9 Field Office Support Specialist Pam McAllister and Accredited Certification Specialist Tammy Duncan. We certainly wish them the best in their new ventures. We all appreciate the combined three decades of service from these ladies to our organization and have enjoyed working with them.

In addition to the Fire Commission website, for the latest SFRT news, announcements, and training opportunities, I invite you to stay connected through our weekly email distribution list and social media page. Please contact the Fire Commission office in Paris if you wish to be added to the email list.

Looking toward FY2024, SFRT will continue to evolve and will remain committed to our vision of leading the nation in fire service training. Our cadre will continue to collaborate and deliver world-class training to Kentucky's firefighters and we are grateful to be a part of ensuring the communities and citizens of the Commonwealth are well-protected.

SFRT BY THE NUMBERS

CLASSES

7,278

FY2023

STUDENTS

95,458

FY2023

INSTRUCTIONAL HOURS

29,893

FY2023

FIRE TRAINING:

78,122

STUDENTS

INDUSTRIAL TRAINING:

10,601

STUDENTS

EMS TRAINING:

6,735

STUDENTS

CLASSES BY CATEGORY

3,401

FIRE DEPARTMENT

143

FIRE ACADEMY OF KENTUCKY

860

FIRE COMMISSION

414

EMR/EMT

363

FIRE SCHOOL

202

PARAMEDIC

1,063

DEGREE PROGRAM

832

INDUSTRIAL



SFRT BY THE NUMBERS

| TOP 10 SFRT-DELIVERED CLASSES FY2023 | CLASSES |
|--------------------------------------|---------|
| Hazardous Materials | 364 |
| Drivers Training | 284 |
| Fire Behavior | 208 |
| Forcible Entry | 205 |
| Fire Control | 199 |
| CPR | 185 |
| Victim Search & Rescue | 171 |
| Ropes | 169 |
| Ventilation | 165 |
| Personal Protective Equipment | 158 |

| TOP 10 SFRT-DELIVERED CLASSES BY STUDENTS FY2023 | STUDENTS |
|--|----------|
| Hazardous Materials | 4633 |
| Drivers Training | 4081 |
| Forcible Entry | 2819 |
| Fire Behavior | 2697 |
| Fire Control | 2483 |
| CPR | 2469 |
| Ventilation | 2210 |
| Victim Search & Rescue | 2178 |
| Ropes | 2140 |
| Personal Protective Equipment | 2069 |

| FIRE COMMISSION CLASSES FY2023 | CLASSES | STUDENTS |
|--------------------------------|---------|----------|
| Fire Instructor I/II | 69 | 1119 |
| Fire Officer I/II | 65 | 1046 |
| Firefighter Rescue | 128 | 2318 |
| Firefighter Survival | 127 | 2131 |
| Flashover | 146 | 2457 |
| Wildland Awareness | 160 | 2171 |



SFRT DISTRICT OFFICES



SFRT Region 1

Region Coordinator: Marc Henderson

District 2—Princeton

Todd Warner, District Coordinator
Kelly Bolin, Field Office Support Specialist

District 3—Calhoun

Jimmy VanCleve, District Coordinator
Joe Dennison, Paramedic Program Coordinator
Mandy Ward, Field Office Support Specialist

District 4—Bowling Green

Ronnie Stinson, District Coordinator
Tamara Steele, Field Office Support Specialist

District 5—Elizabethtown

John Gentry, District Coordinator
Janell McFall, Field Office Support Specialist

District 6—Louisville

Chris Gosnell, District Coordinator
Susan Singleton, Field Office Support Specialist

District 7—Burlington

Tony Morgan, District Coordinator
Kacie Mills, Field Office Support Specialist

SFRT Region 2

Region Coordinator: Mark Hammond

District 9—Morehead

Wes Gilliam, District Coordinator
Pam McAllister, Field Office Support Specialist

District 11—Paintsville

Greg Gray, District Coordinator
Karen Richmond, Field Office Support Specialist

District 12—Hazard

Preston Hays, District Coordinator
Amanda Turner, Field Office Support Specialist

District 13—London

Chantz McPeck, District Coordinator
Jessica Huff, Field Office Support Specialist

District 14—Somerset

Terry Wattenbarger, District Coordinator
Kim Hollis, Field Office Support Specialist

District 15—Paris

Brian Steele, District Coordinator
Vacant, Field Office Support Specialist

EMS EDUCATION

State Fire Rescue Training is a leading provider of emergency services training for all sectors of the emergency response spectrum, including fire departments, EMS services, rescue squads, emergency management, public health, transportation, and community response agencies. SFRT offers training in Emergency Medical Responder, Emergency Medical Technician-Basic, Advanced Emergency Medical Technician, Paramedic, and a full menu of continuing education classes for all levels.

In FY2023, the Fire Commission provided funding to host two Emergency Medical Responder and four Emergency Medical Technician courses. Through this grant, 67 participating students were provided free tuition, textbooks and their first attempt at the National Registry of Emergency Medical Technicians certification testing.

During FY2023, SFRT offered 16 Initial Certification classes with enrollment of 283 students, and led 78 Continuing Education classes, serving 1,536 students. The Fire Commission's four Paramedic programs saw enrollment of 36 students during Summer 2022, 78 students during Fall 2022, 38 students in Spring 2023, and 37 students for summer 2023.

VIRTUAL TRAINING

First implemented during the onset of the COVID-19 pandemic during FY2020, the Fire Commission and State Fire Rescue Training have continued to offer training on a Virtual Instructor-Led Training (VILT) Platform during FY2023.

VILT classes are led by an instructor in real-time, thereby allowing firefighters to utilize this type of training to assist toward completion of their Basic 1 and Basic 2 Kentucky certifications while still adhering to administrative regulations that require face-to-face training for initial certification hours. Certified firefighters are also able to use VILT for their annual continuing education requirements.

During FY2023, VILT served 4,121 students via 147 classes.

News & Events

- Upcoming Events
- News Archive
- Notifications & Announcements

HOME >> NEWS & EVENTS >> UPCOMING EVENTS

Upcoming Events

kyfirecommission@gmail.com

Today June 2023

Print Week Month Agenda

| Sun | Mon | Tue | Wed | Thu | Fri | Sat |
|----------------------|----------------------|----------------------|----------------------|-------|---------------------|-------|
| 28 | 29 | 30 | 31 | Jun 1 | 2 | 3 |
| | 6pm Virtual Training | | 6pm Virtual Training | | | |
| 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 |
| 6pm Virtual Training | CPAT Testing - Lou | CPAT Testing - Lou | State Fire School I | | | |
| | 6:30pm Virtual Train | 6:30pm Virtual Train | 6:30pm Virtual Train | | | |
| 11 | 12 | 13 | 14 | 15 | 16 | 17 |
| 6:30pm Virtual Train | 10am Virtual Train | 12pm Virtual Train | 6:30pm Virtual Train | | | |
| | 10am Virtual Train | 6:30pm Virtual Train | | | | |
| | 6:30pm Virtual Train | | | | | |
| 18 | 19 | 20 | 21 | 22 | 23 | 24 |
| | | | | | Sam Firefighter Sur | |
| 25 | 26 | 27 | 28 | 29 | 30 | Jul 1 |
| Sam Firefighter Res | 7pm Virtual Training | 7pm Virtual Training | | | | |

Events shown in time zone: Eastern Time - New York

GoogleCalendar



SFRT DEGREE PROGRAM

KCTCS Fire Science Technology Courses Offered At:

- Bluegrass CTC
- Elizabethtown CTC
- Gateway CTC
- Jefferson CTC
- Madisonville CTC
- Maysville CTC
- Owensboro CTC
- Southcentral KY CTC
- Somerset CTC
- West KY CTC

The Associate of Applied Science in Fire Science Technology Program prepares for the challenges facing today's emergency responders. The Fire Commission's degree program is IFSAC Accredited and recognized by the National Fire Academy's Fire and Emergency Services Higher Education (FESHE) program.

The program offers courses in:

- Fire Suppression
- Fire Prevention
- Technical Rescue
- Hazardous Materials
- Emergency Medical Care
- Leadership

Students may enter the program with or without experience in emergency services. The degree, certificate and diploma programs that are offered can help in obtaining employment in various emergency service fields, or if already a firefighter, help assist in promotional opportunities. The program may be continued as a 2+2 program with Western Kentucky University's Work Force Administration Program. Students may also work with other higher education institutions, such as Eastern Kentucky University, to transfer certain coursework in pursuit of a 4-year collegiate degree.

Academic certificates are also available for Emergency Medical Responder, Emergency Medical Technician, Basic Fire Protection, Basic Firefighter, Advanced Firefighter, Hazardous Materials Technician, and Fire Service Administration. A Fire Chief diploma is offered as well.

Director of Training Marc Rudder serves on the IFSAC Degree Program Board of Governors, and Casey Hall, Academic Coordinator of Curriculum & Fire Service Training, serves on the IFSAC Council of Governors.

110 students were enrolled into the Fire Commission's degree program (excluding Emergency Medical Technician courses) during the 2022-2023 school year. Approximately 300 Certificates, Diplomas, and Degrees were awarded to students completing in 2022-2023.



SFRT's degree program has been accredited by IFSAC since 2004

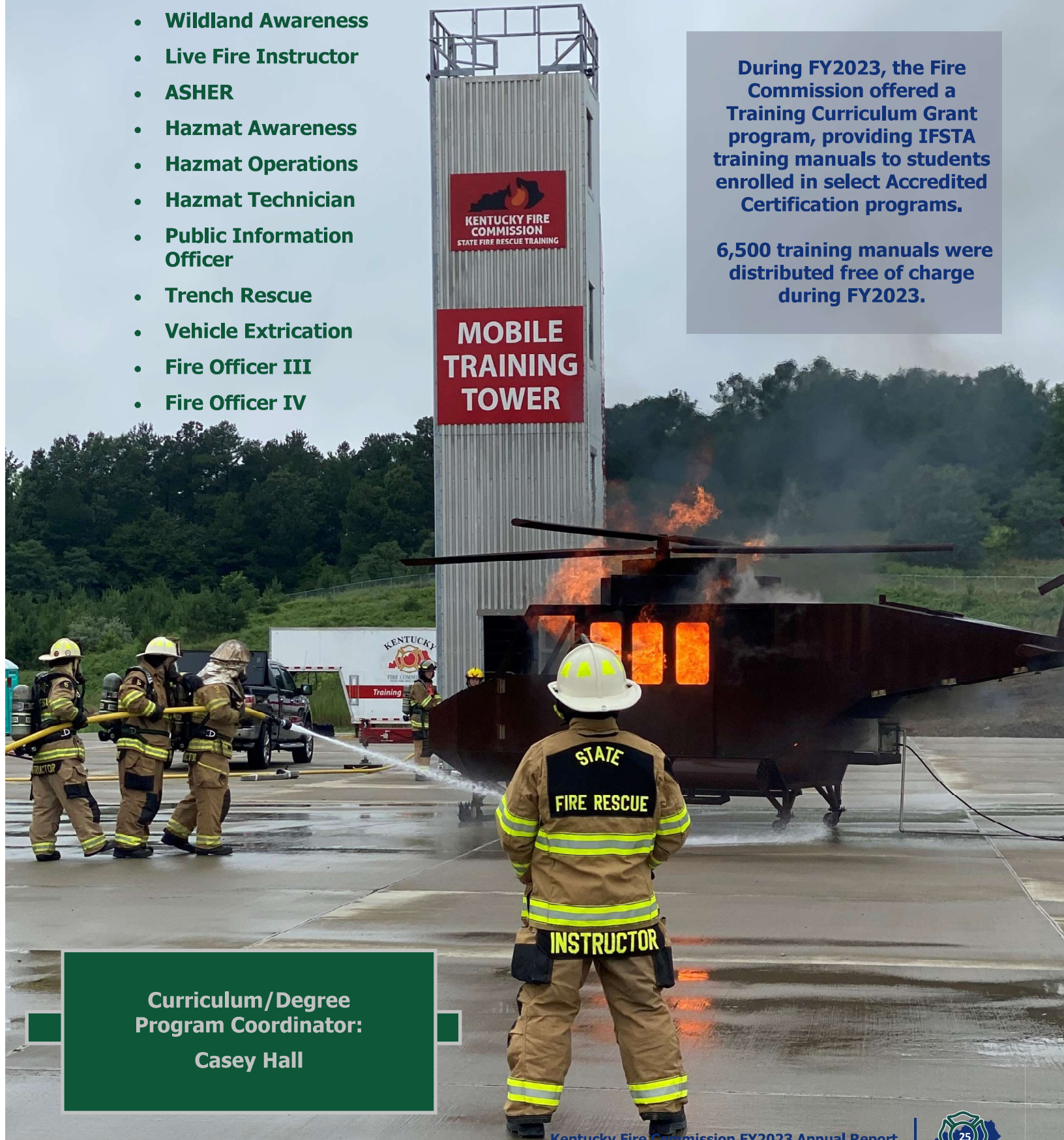
SFRT CURRICULUM UPDATES

In FY2023, the following programs were in development or added/revised:

- Wildland Awareness
- Live Fire Instructor
- ASHER
- Hazmat Awareness
- Hazmat Operations
- Hazmat Technician
- Public Information Officer
- Trench Rescue
- Vehicle Extrication
- Fire Officer III
- Fire Officer IV

During FY2023, the Fire Commission offered a Training Curriculum Grant program, providing IFSTA training manuals to students enrolled in select Accredited Certification programs.

6,500 training manuals were distributed free of charge during FY2023.



Curriculum/Degree
Program Coordinator:
Casey Hall

FIRE ACADEMY OF KENTUCKY

The National Responder Preparedness Center in Greenville officially became The Fire Academy of Kentucky February 1, 2023. The Fire Academy of Kentucky is being developed as the primary facility for Kentucky fire departments to send their new recruits for initial Basic 2 certification as required for full-time career firefighters, and optional for volunteer firefighters.

FY2023 saw two recruit classes graduate from the Academy. Recruits assemble from across the Commonwealth to undergo 13 weeks of physical, classroom and skills training and exit their time at the Academy fully prepared to protect their citizens. The Academy accepts fire department-sponsored career and volunteer firefighters to its program free of charge.

The Academy continued its expansion project during FY2023, with expected completion of the new 16,000 square foot administration building the end of calendar year 2023. This building will house current staff and equipment and allow the Academy to expand the number of recruits for future classes. A 5-story training/burn tower will begin construction during FY2024.

2 RECRUIT CLASSES

47 RECRUITS

13 FIRE DEPARTMENTS

816.5 RECRUIT
TRAINING HOURS



Coordinator: Pat Thompson

Training Specialist: Charlie Rafferty

Field Office Support Specialist: Dustin Staves



ACCREDITED CERTIFICATION

Kentucky recognizes the International Fire Service Accreditation Congress (IFSAC) as its certification board. In addition to its certificate program, IFSAC also provides governing for the Fire Commission/State Fire Rescue Training's Fire Science Technology degree program. Accredited Certification Coordinator Christy Rodgers serves on the IFSAC Certificate Assembly Board of Governors and is the Vice Chair of the IFSAC Committee on Site Teams.



IFSAC accreditation is based on a peer-review process. During FY2023, Fire Commission employees participated in 5 site visits to review each entity's IFSAC program. The Accreditation Program certification is valid through 2023 and the Degree Program certification will be valid through 2024. Both programs will then be reaccredited, after peer-review, for the next five-year cycle.

In FY2023, written testing transitioned to an online-platform. Written tests are administered monthly in each district office as well as by appointment at the Accredited Certification office. 2,700 seals were issued in FY2023 from candidates attempting written testing. 112 skills testing sessions were offered across the state during FY2023, with 1,997 candidates. The Fire Commission's FY2023 Accredited Certification Testing Grant waived fees for 1,947 written tests.



**Airport Firefighter ♦ Common Passenger Vehicle Awareness
Common Passenger Vehicle Operations ♦ Common Passenger Vehicle Technician
Driver/Operator ♦ Driver/Operator Aerial ♦ Driver/Operator Pumper
Driver/Operator Mobile Water Supply ♦ Firefighter I ♦ Firefighter II ♦ Fire Inspector I
Fire Instructor I ♦ Fire Instructor II ♦ Fire Officer I ♦ Fire Officer II
Fire Officer III ♦ Fire Officer IV ♦ Hazmat Awareness ♦ Hazmat Operations
Live Fire Instructor ♦ Live Fire Instructor In Charge ♦ Rope Rescue Awareness
Rope Rescue Operations ♦ Rope Rescue Technician ♦ Small Unmanned Aircraft**

**Accredited Certification Coordinator: Christy Rodgers
Accredited Certification Specialist: Kayla Sisk**

FLEET/FACILITIES/EQUIPMENT



Major Purchases FY2023

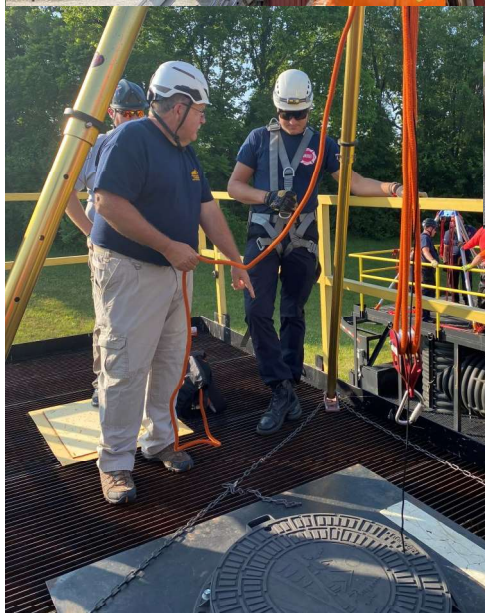
- Dodge Durangos
- 15-Passenger Van
- Ram 3500 Trucks
- District 13 Additional Property
 - District 14 Property
 - Hazmat Prop
- Survival & Rescue Prop
 - Confined Space Prop
- Personal Protective Equipment
 - AED Trainers
 - Lucas CPR Devices



Major Construction/Renovation Projects FY2023

- District 14 HVAC System Update
- Continued Development — Fire Academy of Kentucky







Over **1,000,000** Fire/EMS Students Trained!

110 Cleveland Drive

Paris, KY 40361

(800) 782-6823

kyfirecommission.kctcs.edu