

# FY2024 Annual Report

  
**KENTUCKY FIRE  
COMMISSION**  
STATE FIRE RESCUE TRAINING

**MOBILE  
TRAINING  
TOWER**





*The Fire Academy of Kentucky celebrated the grand opening of their new 16,000 square foot training facility in Muhlenberg County with a Ribbon Cutting Ceremony in April.*

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## CONTACT INFORMATION

### Phone

(800) 782-6823

### Website

[kyfirecommission.kctcs.edu](http://kyfirecommission.kctcs.edu)

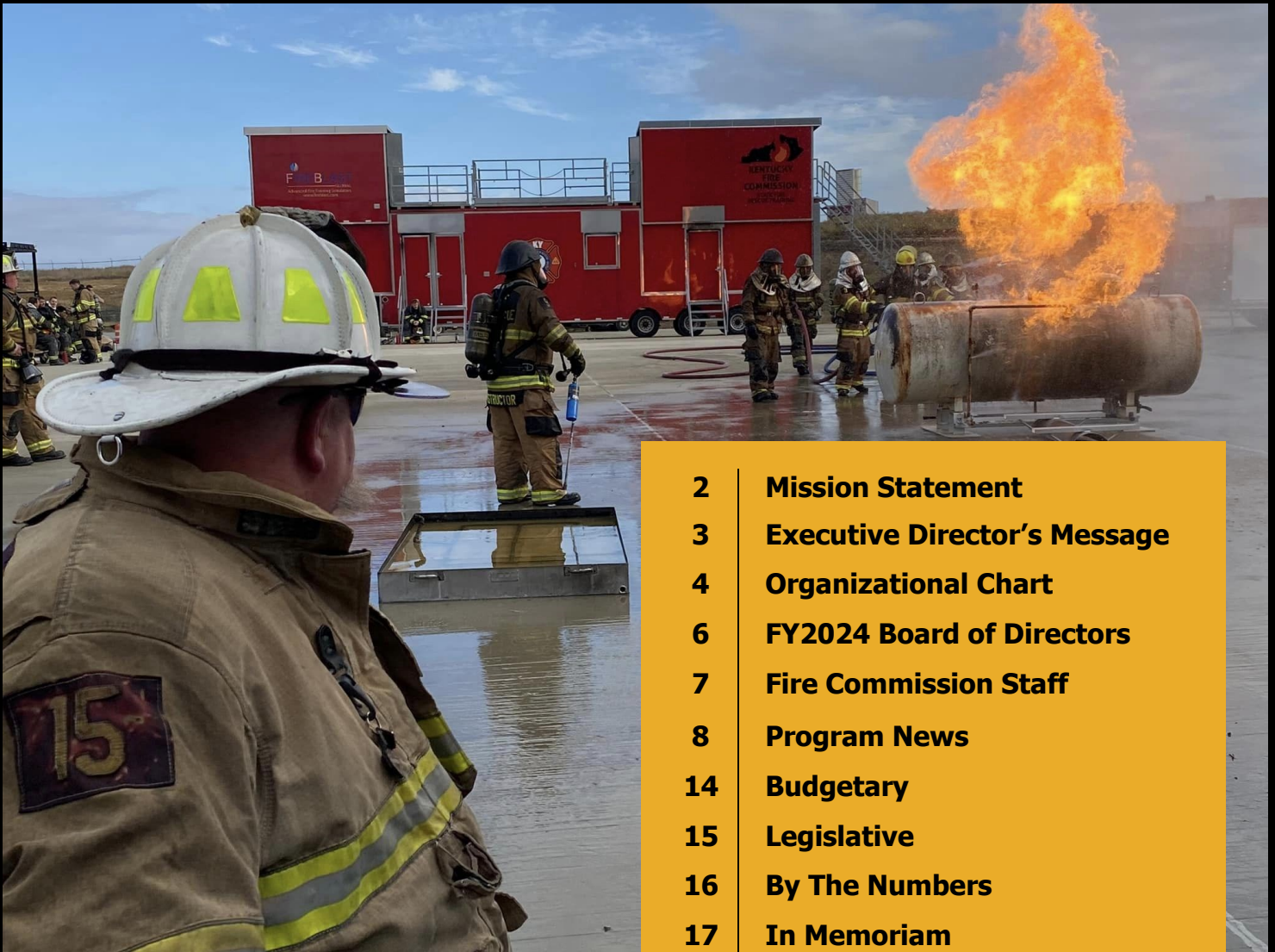
### Social Media

KYFireCommission

### Mobile App

Kentucky Fire Commission

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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

Firefighting is an industry of change, and as the fire service continues to evolve, so does the Fire Commission. The Fire Commission works endlessly to process new ideas and new ways to supplement Kentucky's fire departments in their mission to protect their citizens and communities. During FY2024, we expanded our offerings, rolled out new programs, and enhanced current programs. Our legislative team worked tirelessly to lobby for fire-service related bills that will advance the fire service in our state.

As an organization, the Fire Commission is committed to providing the firefighters and fire departments of the Commonwealth with some of the most premier programs and training opportunities in the nation. It is in that commitment that we will always strive to be a model program for other state fire organizations to work toward. We look forward to continuing to provide our departments with excellent customer service for years to come.

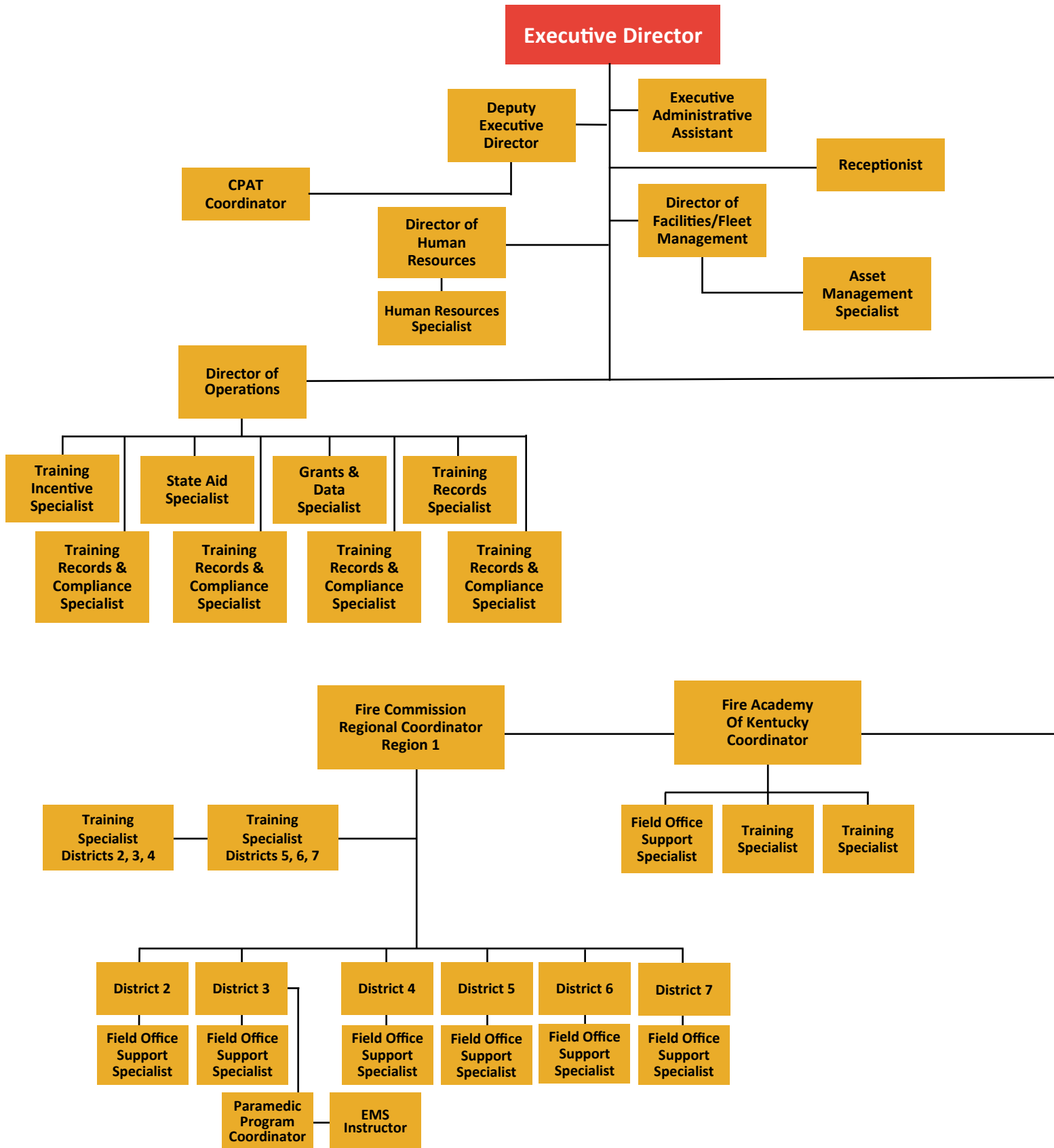
Because of the tremendous pride and dedication of our staff, we are able to provide such exceptional programs and services to our fire departments. I would like to thank each of our employees for the hard work they do.

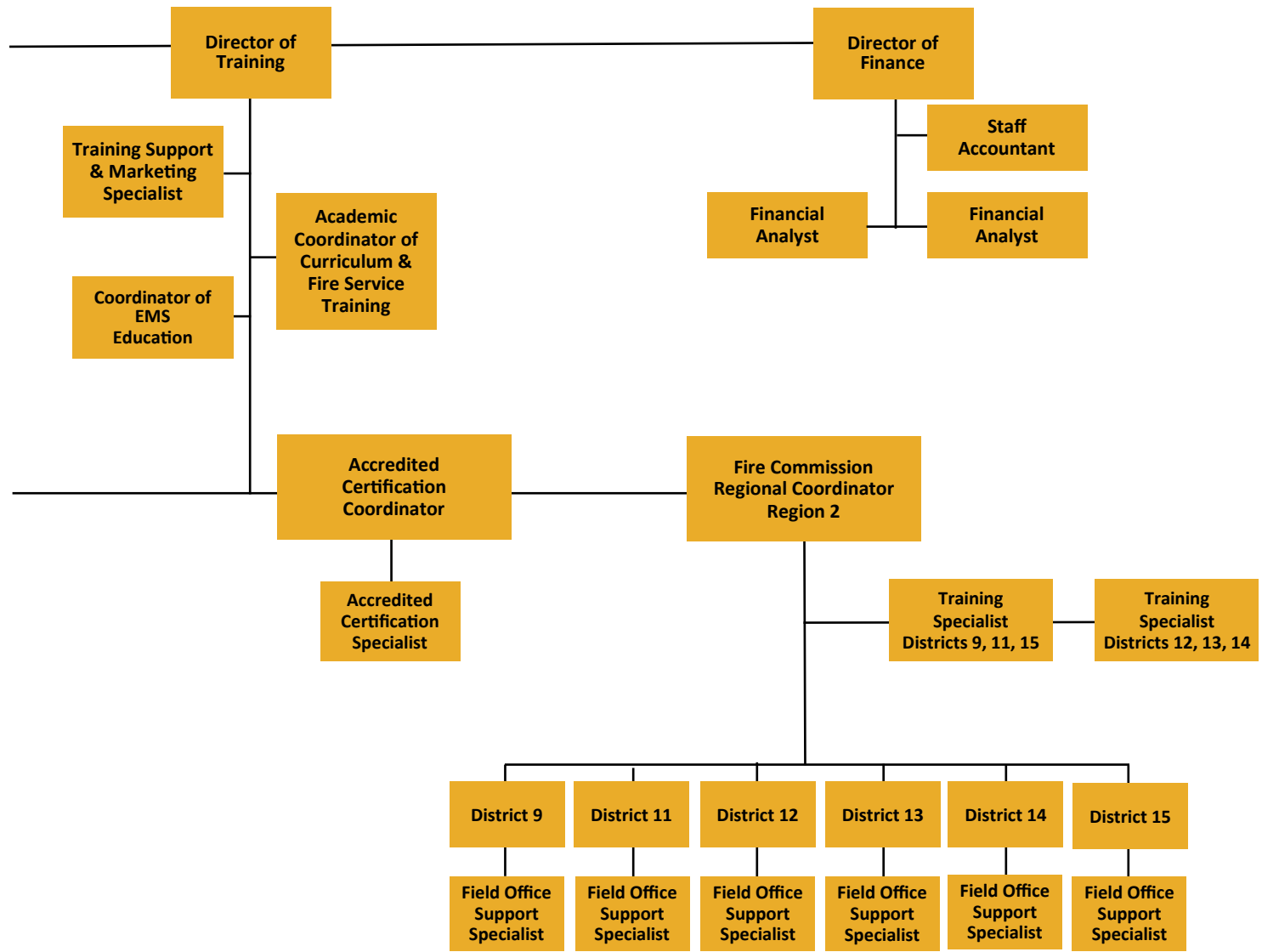
One of the significant milestones of the year was the opening of our new classroom building at the Fire Academy of Kentucky. This project was the culmination of many years of vision and planning. With our expanded classroom space comes significant increases in the number of recruits each class can accommodate. We continue to look toward the future with expansion of this property and have begun construction of our five-story drill tower adjacent to the new classroom.

Please do not hesitate to contact any of our offices if you would like more information on programs or training.



# ORGANIZATIONAL CHART





## Committees of the Board

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

## FY2024 Board of Directors Representation

**Chairman**  
**Vice Chairman**  
**Secretary**

**Ricky King**  
**Joe Choate**  
**Chris Black**

**Paid Fire Chiefs**

Nick Clark

**County Judge Executive**

Joe Choate

**Volunteer Fire Chiefs**

Cheryl Allen

**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**

Jerry Stephens

**Fire-Based EMS Services**

Mike Sutt

**KRS 75 or 273 Fire Depts**

Ricky King

**KY Firefighters Assn**

Kyle Carpenter

**General Public**

Fr. Matthew Young

**KY Professional FFs**

Joe Baer

**Mayors**

Andrew Scott

**KY Assoc of Fire Chiefs**

Nathan Mulvey

**Building & Safety**

Jerry Yates

**KCTCS President**

Dr. Ryan Quarles





## ADMINISTRATIVE STAFF

Interim 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 Human Resources	Val Parks	val.parks@kctcs.edu
Director of Operations	Carrie Wilburn	carrie.wilburn@kctcs.edu

## SUPPORT STAFF

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VACANT	Human Resources Specialist	
Casey Hall	Curriculum/Degree Program Coordinator	casey.hall@kctcs.edu
Gary Hall	Coordinator of EMS Education	gary.hall@kctcs.edu
Scott Landram	Training Records & Compliance Specialist	scott.landram@kctcs.edu
Ashley McWaters	Training Records & Compliance Specialist	ashley.mcwaters@kctcs.edu
Delores Collins	Financial Analyst	delores.montgomery@kctcs.edu
VACANT	Executive Administrative Assistant	
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Casey Smith	Staff Accountant	casey.smith@kctcs.edu
Ashley Tackett	State Aid Specialist	ashley.tackett@kctcs.edu
Cheryl Watkins	Receptionist	cheryl.watkins@kctcs.edu
Richard Wright	Asset Management Specialist	richard.wright@kctcs.edu



## STATE FIRE SCHOOL

The 93rd edition of the Kentucky State Fire School was held June 6-9, 2024 in Lexington. For 2024, the school was moved back downtown to the renovated Central Bank Center, with additional classes being held throughout Fayette County. 620 students from 170 departments/agencies participated in 35 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 FY2024 through this program.

Incentive and pension funds totaling \$25,587,850.22 were distributed to 4075 firefighters during FY2024.

## HEPATITIS VACCINATIONS

During FY2024, the Fire Commission's voluntary Hepatitis vaccination program assisted in providing funds for 26 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 ensure every fire department throughout the Commonwealth has at least one thermal imaging camera. 118 departments were awarded thermal imaging cameras in FY2024.

## 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. During FY2024, 30 departments were awarded a total of \$999,960.00 in grant funds.



# FIRE DEPARTMENT COMPLIANCE INSPECTIONS

The Fire Commission conducts 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 689 inspections during FY2024 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 \$1,322,372.98 were distributed to 17 departments in FY2024.

# STATE AID

The Fire Commission's State Aid program is available to all qualifying volunteer fire departments in the Commonwealth of Kentucky. During FY2024, the Kentucky Fire Commission allotted \$11,500 to each qualifying volunteer fire department throughout the Commonwealth.

In FY2024, 695 departments were awarded State Aid for a total of \$7,916,500. 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 435 departmental junior programs registered in Kentucky.

The Fire Commission held a training class specific to junior firefighters during State Fire School in June in Lexington. 29 junior firefighters from 9 fire departments participated in this class.



## HEALTH AND WELLNESS

The Fire Commission's Health & Wellness Program funds the purchase of fitness equipment and gear extractors for qualifying fire departments of the Commonwealth. Through this grant in FY2024, 16 fire departments received fitness equipment and 25 fire departments received gear extractors.



## PERSONAL PROTECTIVE GEAR GRANT

The Personal Protective Gear Grant was established to approach a problem that has long caused difficulties for fire departments across the Commonwealth and was designed to ensure that proper protective equipment can be purchased to protect those that protect us. Qualifying departments were provided three sets each of structural firefighting helmets, structural firefighting gloves, structural firefighting boots and \$3,500 for purchase of structural firefighting coats and pants.

Applicants were awarded this grant based upon the following priorities:

- Departments without personal protective equipment for their firefighters
- Departments with personal protective equipment greater than 10 years from the date of manufacture
- Departments with personal protective equipment that does not have NFPA 1971 labels

A total of \$2,200,000 worth of protective gear and funds were disbursed to 405 fire departments in Kentucky during FY2024.



## IFSTA eLIBRARY GRANT

**Welcome to**  
**ResourceOne**

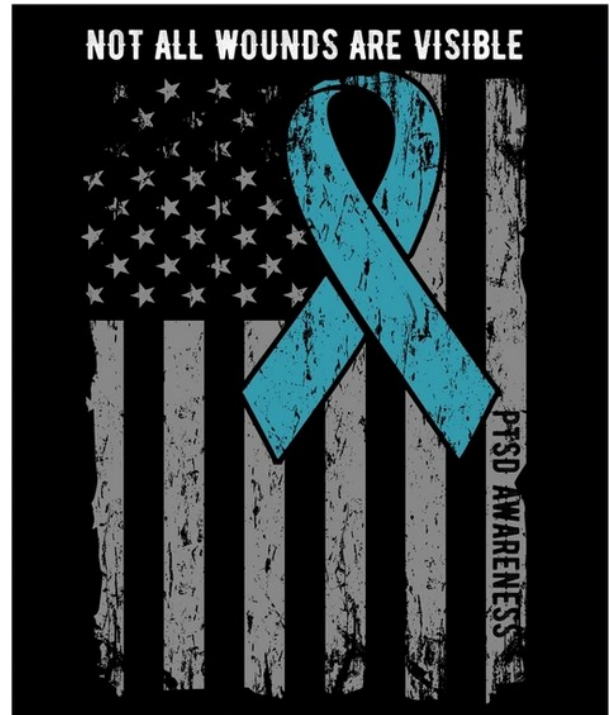
The IFSTA eLibrary is a subscription-based program which provides access to International Fire Service Training Association-validated manuals through ResourceOne. During FY2024, a Fire Commission grant provided eLibrary access to a library of 38 fire service training manuals for 1,032 Kentucky firefighters.



## 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.

During FY2024, 75 firefighters received reimbursements totaling \$120,426.27.



## PEER SUPPORT TRAINING

The Kentucky Fire Commission partnered with the International Association of Firefighters to present a Peer Support Training Class in April. 35 participants received training and skills practice to become effective peer counselors and learn how to establish peer support teams for their fire departments. This program is designed specifically for firefighters, EMS providers, dispatchers, chaplains, firefighter retirees, behavioral health specialists and any member of the fire service interesting in supporting their fellow firefighters during tough times.

*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: Burlington, Louisville and Paris.



**32**

**Testing Sessions**

**1037**

**Candidates**

**688**

**Cards Issued**

**Rick Larkins**

**CPAT Coordinator**



# APPRENTICE I & II CERTIFICATION

The Kentucky Fire Commission has established two firefighter certification levels for students enrolled into Kentucky Department of Education (KDE)-sponsored Fire Science programs. Students will engage in hands-on and lecture training in an environment that will allow them to work toward certification as a Kentucky Apprentice I Firefighter (100 hours of training) and as a Kentucky Apprentice II Firefighter (200 hours of training). These programs enable students to acquire knowledge and aptitude of fire service administration and firefighting tasks while still in high school, allowing them to accrue necessary skills toward service as a career or volunteer firefighter once they turn 18.

Beginning with the 2024-2025 school year, students with Fire Science Program of Studies course codes successfully transcripted will be eligible to request approval for credit for prior learning credits upon enrolling into a KCTCS campus offering the Fire Science Degree Program.

Apprentice I and Apprentice II certifications are only available to students enrolled in a KDE-sponsored Fire Science pathway.



# BUDGETARY





# LEGISLATIVE



The 2024 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

<b>SB107:</b> This act related to subscription fire departments	
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## HOUSE

<b>HB6:</b> This act related to Firefighter State Incentive, Fire Department State Aid, and State Urban Search & Rescue funding	<b>HB18:</b> This act related to rights of property owners and declaring an emergency
<b>HB43:</b> This act related to fire protection services	<b>HB57:</b> This act related to reciprocity for emergency medical service professionals
<b>HB99:</b> This act related to Kentucky Public Pensions Authority	<b>HB159:</b> This act related to health care providers
<b>HB179:</b> This act related to insurance	<b>HB248:</b> This act related to police or fire department reinstatement
<b>HB323:</b> This act related to firefighter cancer screening	<b>HB388:</b> This act related to taxing districts
<b>HB484:</b> This act related to emergency medical services	

# BY THE NUMBERS

**14,550**  
Volunteer Firefighters



**4,092**  
Career Firefighters




**52**  
Paid Departments



**632**  
Volunteer Departments



**87**  
Combination Departments



**608**  
Basic 1 Certifications



**439**  
Basic 2 Certifications



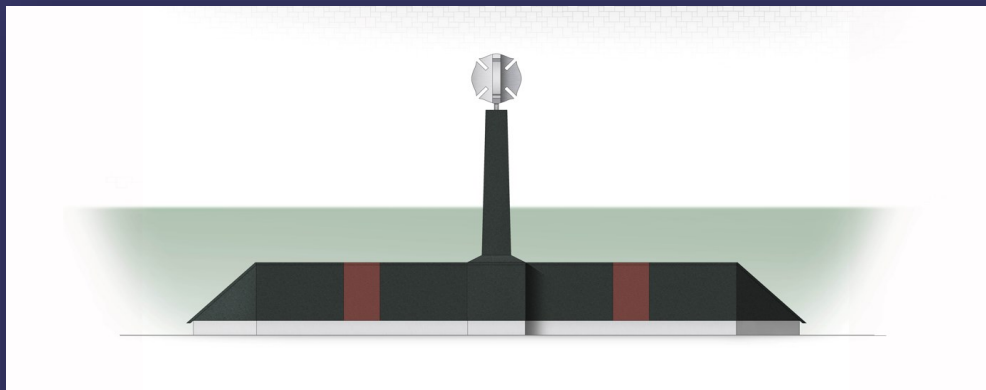
# IN MEMORIAM



*The lives of Charles Brumfield, Phillip Caudill, Gary Hutton, Garry Key, Sean McAdam, Gary Melvin, Brian Morgan, Robert Orkies, Greg Schultz, and Duane Suttles were honored in October at the Kentucky Fallen Firefighter Memorial Service.*



*During FY2024, renovations began to upgrade the monument and grounds of the memorial.*





## 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

FY2024 was an exciting and inspiring year for State Fire Rescue Training (SFRT). Through the efforts of so many, we maintain our commitment and dedication to the fire service of the Commonwealth, and our staff tirelessly works to ensure our mission is carried out.

Education is the cornerstone of SFRT. During FY2024, SFRT served almost 100,000 students via nearly 30,000 classroom hours. We offer training for the brand-new recruit on up to executive level classes for chief officers in both in-person and virtual formats. Our Accredited Certification programs continue to grow their offerings, with the debut of the Common Passenger Vehicle series, Fire Officer III, and Fire Officer IV in FY2024. Our certification and degree programs underwent peer reviews this year, and I am pleased to announce both were recommended for another five-year reaccreditation cycle by the International Fire Service Accreditation Congress.

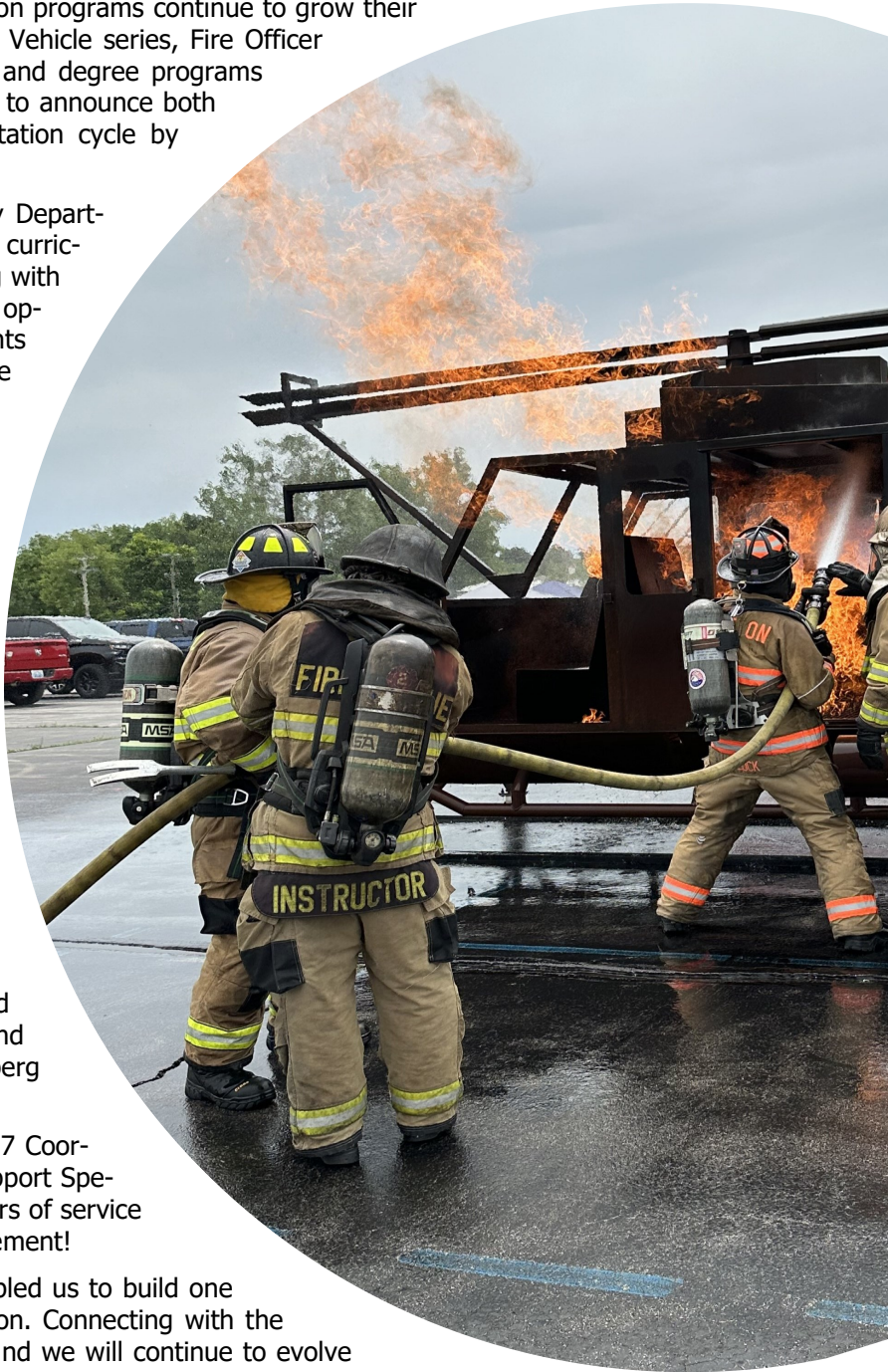
This past winter, the Fire Commission and Kentucky Department of Education (KDE) worked to develop standard curriculum for high school fire science programs. Beginning with the 2024-2025 school year, KDE will offer additional opportunities in fire training for high school students statewide. Students successfully participating in the entire two-year high school program will they be well on their way to being workforce ready and have the opportunity to gain certifications as an Apprentice I and Apprentice II Firefighter—certifications only offered to students in this KDE pathway.

Also on the education front, The Fire Academy of Kentucky has entered into alignment with Madisonville Community College for Academy recruits to earn KCTCS Fire Science Technology college credits during their time in recruit class. Recruits will complete over 21 hours of credit while at the Academy. We are very excited to unlock the possibilities this partnership has fostered with higher education for our recruits.

Our Academy held two successful recruit classes in FY2024, along with an accelerated EMT class for past and registered recruit class participants. The Academy opened the doors to its new facility in April and began the next phase of site development and construction. We invite you to tour the facility and meet our staff the next time you are in Muhlenberg County.

I would like to offer congratulations to SFRT District 7 Coordinator Bill Birkle and SFRT District 6 Field Office Support Specialist Susan Singleton. Thank you for your many years of service to the Fire Commission, and best of luck in your retirement!

The dedication and hard work of our staff have enabled us to build one of the preeminent fire training programs in the nation. Connecting with the firefighters of Kentucky is what SFRT is built upon, and we will continue to evolve our programs to meet the needs of current and future first responders.



# SFRT BY THE NUMBERS

**CLASSES**  
**7,382**  
 FY2024

**STUDENTS**  
**99,027**  
 FY2024

**INSTRUCTIONAL HOURS**  
**28669.5**  
 FY2024

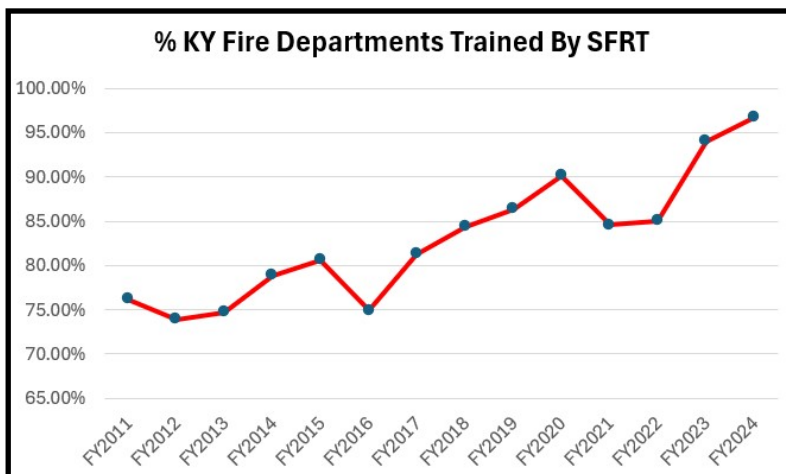
**FIRE TRAINING:**  
**85,073**  
 STUDENTS

**INDUSTRIAL TRAINING:**  
**7,813**  
 STUDENTS

**EMS TRAINING:**  
**6,141**  
 STUDENTS

## CLASSES BY CATEGORY

<b>4,011</b>	<b>154</b>
<b>FIRE DEPARTMENT</b>	<b>FIRE ACADEMY OF KENTUCKY</b>
<b>895</b>	<b>319</b>
<b>FIRE COMMISSION</b>	<b>EMR/EMT/EMT-A</b>
<b>314</b>	<b>247</b>
<b>FIRE SCHOOL</b>	<b>PARAMEDIC</b>
<b>821</b>	<b>621</b>
<b>DEGREE PROGRAM</b>	<b>INDUSTRIAL</b>



# SFRT BY THE NUMBERS

TOP 10 SFRT-DELIVERED CLASSES FY2024	CLASSES
Driver Training (All)	331
Hazmat (All)	318
Fire Extinguishers	285
Fire Control	253
Fire Behavior	232
Forcible Entry	224
Pump Operations	199
Ventilation	198
CPR/AED	191
Personal Protective Equipment	189

TOP 10 SFRT-DELIVERED CLASSES BY STUDENTS FY2024	STUDENTS
Driver Training (All)	4,289
Hazmat (All)	4,096
Fire Control	3,727
Fire Behavior	3,102
Forcible Entry	3,012
Ventilation	2,673
Pump Operations	2,359
CPR/AED	2,319
Personal Protective Equipment	2,251
Hoses, Nozzles & Appliances	2,181

FIRE COMMISSION CLASSES FY2024	CLASSES	STUDENTS
Fire Instructor I/II	83	1,258
Fire Officer I/II/III/IV	36	753
Firefighter Rescue	149	2,547
Firefighter Survival	162	2,960
Flashover	193	3,387
Wildland Awareness	151	2,329



# 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—Greenville

Jimmy VanCleve, District Coordinator  
Joe Dennison, Paramedic Program Coordinator  
Dinah Chapman, EMS Instructor  
Lexie Miller, 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 Townsend, Field Office Support Specialist

#### District 6—Louisville

Chris Gosnell, District Coordinator  
Sabrina Kauffman, 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  
Tori Earlywine, 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  
Hannah Swartz, 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.

During FY2024, SFRT offered 23 Initial Certification classes with enrollment of 302 students, and led 104 Continuing Education classes, serving 734 students.

# 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 FY2024.

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 FY2024, VILT served 4,854 students via 94 classes.

### News & Events

- Upcoming Events
- News Archive
- Notifications & Announcements

HOME >> NEWS & EVENTS >> UPCOMING EVENTS

## Upcoming Events

kyfirecommission@gmail.com

Today ◀ ▶ June 2024 ▼ Print Week Month Agenda ▼

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Jun 1
26	27	28 IFSAC Driver/Op	29	30	31	STICO Class Begi	
2	3	4 CPAT Testing - Lol	5 CPAT Testing - Lol	6 State Fire School I	7	8	
9	10	11 10am EMT ConEd -	12	13	14 8am Flashover Rec	15	
16	17	18	19 7pm Virtual Training	20 8am Firefighter Sur 7pm Virtual Training	21 8am Firefighter Res	22 Firefighter Surviv	
23 6pm Virtual Training	24 7pm Virtual Training	25	26 6:30pm Virtual Train 7pm Virtual Training	27	28	29	
30	Jul 1 IFSAC Fire Officer	2 7pm Virtual Training	3	4	5	6	



# SFRT DEGREE PROGRAM

## KCTCS Fire Science Technology

### Courses Offered At:

- Bluegrass CTC
- Elizabethtown CTC
- Gateway CTC
- Jefferson CTC
- Madisonville 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. The Fire Commission's Degree Accreditation Program underwent peer-review during FY2024, and was recommended for 5-year re-accreditation.

61 students were enrolled into the Fire Commission's degree program (excluding Emergency Medical Technician courses) during the 2023-2024 school year. Approximately 282 Certificates, Diplomas, and Degrees were awarded to students completing in 2023-2024.



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



# SFRT CURRICULUM UPDATES



**During FY2024, the following programs were in development or added/revised:**

- **2024 Emergency Response Guidebook Training Program**
- **Common Passenger Vehicle Awareness/Operations/Technician**
- **Live Fire Instructor**
- **Live Fire Instructor In Charge**

**Academic Coordinator of Curriculum & Fire Service Training: Casey Hall**

**During FY2024, the following programs were piloted:**

- **IF SAC Fire Officer III**
- **IF SAC Fire Officer IV**



# FIRE ACADEMY OF KENTUCKY

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.

FY2024 saw Class 003 and Class 004 graduate from the Academy. Recruits from across the Commonwealth assemble in Greenville at the 50-acre campus 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. A 4-week accelerated Emergency Medical Technician class is offered to previous Academy graduates, and those registered for the upcoming Academy recruit class.

During FY2024, the Academy aligned with Madisonville Community and Technical College as a Southern Association of Colleges and Schools Commission on Colleges facility. Class 004 was the first cohort. Each recruit received 21 college credits, placing them approximately one-third of the way to a KCTCS Associate of Applied Science-Fire Science Technology degree.

The Academy continued its expansion project during FY2024, with completion of the new 16,000 square foot administration building. This building will house staff and equipment and allow the Academy to expand the number of recruits for future classes. A 5-story training/burn tower is under construction, to be completed during FY2025.



- 2** RECRUIT CLASSES
- 61** RECRUITS
- 20** FIRE DEPARTMENTS
- 805** RECRUIT TRAINING HOURS



**Coordinator: Pat Thompson**  
**Training Specialist: Charlie Rafferty**

**Field Office Support Specialist: Mandy Ward**  
**Training Specialist: Dustin Staves**



# ACCREDITED CERTIFICATION



Kentucky recognizes the International Fire certification board. In addition to its certificate the Fire Commission/State Fire Rescue Training's 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.

Service Accreditation Congress (IFSAC) as its program, IFSAC also provides governing for Fire Science Technology degree program. Accredited Certification

IFSAC accreditation is based on a peer-review process. During FY2024, Fire Commission employees participated in five site visits to review each entity's IFSAC program. The Fire Commission's Certificate Accreditation Program underwent peer-review during FY2024, and was recommended for 5-year re-accreditation.

Written tests are administered via an online platform monthly in each district office as well as by appointment at the Accredited Certification office. 2,818 seals were issued in FY2024 from candidates attempting written testing. 127 skills testing sessions were offered across the state during FY2024 with 3,125 candidates.

**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 FY2024**

- **Ram 5500 Pickups**
- **Commercial Cab Pumps**
- **Chevy Express Van**
- **Personal Protective Equipment**
- **Rope Rescue Prop**
- **Vehicle Extrication Prop**

## **Major Construction/Renovation Projects FY2024**

- **Fire Academy of Kentucky - Continued Development**
- **District 3 office - relocation**
- **District 2 office - land improvements**



FY2024





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