FY 2017 Events and Services Statistics

**Total Events Combined**
- Events Delivered: 419
- Instructional Hours: 9,145
- Kansas Counties Served: 94
- Other Organizations Served: 27
- Participants: 7,809
- Student Contact Hours: 106,774
- Kansas Communities/Orgs. Served: 420
- U.S. States Served: 7

**National Certification Program**
- Certification Exams: 93
- Instructional Hours: 647
- Kansas Counties Served: 63
- Kansas Communities/Orgs. Served: 160
- U.S. States Served: 5
- Participants: 2,176
- Certifications Awarded: 1,075
- Student Contact Hours: 20,293
- Other Organizations Served: 9

**Training Delivered**
- Classes Delivered: 326
- Instructional Hours: 8,498
- Kansas Counties Served: 94
- Other Organizations Served: 28
- Participants: 5,633

**94 Kansas Counties Served**

**9 U.S. States Served**

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**Report Submitted**
On behalf of the Kansas Fire Service Training Commission by the Kansas Fire & Rescue Training Institute (KFRTI), University of Kansas Professional & Continuing Education.

**Reporting Requirement**
KSA76-327d. “The Kansas Fire Service Training Commission shall…publish an annual report in conjunction with the University of Kansas fire service training program concerning the activities and duties of the Kansas fire service training program and commission.”

**Fire Service Training Commission**
The Fire Service Training Commission members are appointed to four-year terms, with half of the commission appointed (or reappointed) every two years. From time to time, interim appointments are made to fill vacancies created by resignations from the commission.
FSTC MEMBERS

Larry Pander, Kansas Community College Degree Programs (Chair)

Rick Mosher, Fire Educators Association of Kansas (Vice-Chair)

John Paul Jones, Kansas State Council of Firefighters (member)

Kevin Flory, Kansas State Firefighters Association (member)

Ross Hauck, Kansas Forest Service, Kansas State University (member)

Douglas Jorgensen, Kansas State Fire Marshal’s Office (member)

James Modig, the University of Kansas (member)

Eric Voss, Kansas Board of EMS (member)

Jack Taylor, Kansas State Association of Professional Fire Chiefs (member)

Mike Roosevelt, International Association of Arson Investigators, KS Chapter (member)

Brad Smith, Kansas State Association of Fire Chiefs (member)

Timothy Matthias, Kansas Fire Marshal’s Association (member)

FY 2017 EVENTS LOCATIONS BY COUNTY
New Course: Online Alternative Fuel Vehicles Course

Early in FY 2015, the Institute was approached by the Metropolitan Energy Center (MEC) in Kansas City to assist with developing an Alternative Fuel Vehicles (AFV) course. Comprised of two sections, the first section overviews the safety aspects of alternative fuel vehicle incidents and is targeted to all emergency responders. The second section addresses response issues when responding to incidents involving Alternative Fuel Vehicles and is specifically targeted to firefighters. The online course is self-paced and all-inclusive.

The Institute also offers this course in a traditional face-to-face format that can be taught in local fire departments. To participate in the online AFV course, visit kupce.ku.edu/kufire-home and search the Firefighter Programs listings for this course.

Certification Courses Revised

Many of the KFRTI courses that lead to national certification have either been revised or are in the process of revision. These revisions happen periodically as new editions of the NFPA National Standards are published. Accreditation criteria requires the Institute to update materials to meet the latest edition of the applicable national standard within two years of the standard’s publication date.

Within the past year the Institute has revised the Fire Officer I, Fire Inspector I, Driver/Operator Pumper & Aerial, Hazardous Materials Awareness & Operations (See Online Hazardous Materials Courses article below). Scheduled for revision in 2018 are Fire Fighter I & II, Confined Space Entry and Rope Rescue I & II.

Coming Soon: Online Hazardous Materials Courses

The Institute is developing a new Online Hazardous Materials Awareness course. This new course is being developed to meet the new NFPA Professional Qualifications Standard for Hazardous Materials/Weapons of Mass Destruction Emergency Response. This new standard is a redevelopment of the old “472” standard written in the Professional Qualifications Standard format.

The new online course will be a self-paced, one part course. Upon completion, individuals may take the national certification exam or skip that subject within the Firefighter I course offered by the Institute. This new course is projected for completion by the summer of 2018.

An online course for Hazardous Materials Operations is being evaluated for development in 2018/19. The course will be a two-part course similar to the Introduction to Technical Rescue course currently offered by the Institute. Part I will be an online, self-paced course covering the knowledge components of the curriculum. Part II will be a face-to-face course covering the hands-on skills elements required by the national standard.

Review of Certification Based Programs Underway

The Institute began a review of all “certification based courses” in the summer of 2017. This review will continue into 2018 and is being conducted with the specific goal of increasing the success of firefighters participating in these courses.

As national standards are revised on a routine schedule, the performance requirements continue to increase. Both knowledge and skills required by the standards include new expectations placed on firefighters and related emergency responders. The amount of information in the courses expand in direct correlation to the standards.

The purpose of this review is to ensure that courses include up-to-date knowledge and skills training to meet the standards; old, unnecessary content is removed; and appropriate learning activities and technologies...
are used to help prepare the students for the national certification exam administered at the end of the course.

Preliminary results of this review indicate that a number of improvements will help the student success rate. These modifications include:

**An introductory lesson in each course describing:**

- Course design, national standard requirements and the relationship between the standard and the course content.
- An explanation of the roles and responsibilities of instructors, students, Institute staff and fire department officers involved in the course.
- Improvements in the design of the courses to ensure student involvement in the course and engagement with the course information.
- A thorough review of all test questions to ensure they test what is required and are fair and unbiased.
- A new test management software will be purchased – with new capabilities in:
  - Detailed student test results reports detailing results by subject matter,
  - Detailed reports for instructors on how their students did on the exam (no student names will be provided, just scores and statistics for the group)
  - Automatic test question selection - random question selection based on Job Performance Requirements (JPR) and/or objectives to be tested.

**Instructor Professional Development Seminars beginning in the spring of 2018 designed to help implement these improvements.**

- All instructors involved in training firefighters in Kansas will be invited to attend these no cost seminars.
- Improvements in certification test bank management.

**Revision of all National Certification Guides (formerly titled Certification Study Guides).**

**GRANT ACTIVITIES**

The Institute continues to seek grants as opportunities present themselves. We have been fortunate over the last four years in supplementing the budget with a total of over $1.16 million dollars in Assistance to Firefighters Grants and $190,000 in miscellaneous grants. All of these grants were awarded for specific projects or to support specific training courses as explained in the narratives listed below.

**Assistance to Firefighters Grants (AFG)**

The Institute has been fortunate to receive grant support from the Assistance to Firefighters Grant (AFG) program. This grant program is a competitive grant that, if awarded, can be used by designated state fire training agencies to purchase equipment, firefighter protective clothing, or vehicles (limited to firefighting vehicles or tow vehicles). Over the last four years the Institute has received $1,163,320 in federal awards from the AFG program. These grants have allowed us to accelerate the repair of two props and purchase two new props (a driving simulator and a mobile training tower).

Due to the competitive nature of these grants, awards are not guaranteed. The Institute will maintain our current fiscal plan related to funding new props and the refurbishment of older props within our existing abilities. If additional grants are awarded, the Institute will take advantage of the opportunities to make additional improvements in firefighter training programs and resources.

**2016 AFG Awarded: Refurbish of Flammable Liquids and Gases Training Simulator**

In the spring of 2017 the Institute was awarded a new Assistance to Firefighters Grant to refurbish the Flammable Liquids and Gases Training Simulator (typically
Firefighters from Pittsburg work to extinguish the “pipe rack” prop – one of eight props in the Institute’s Flammable Liquids & Gases trainer.

referred to as the Propane Trailer). This grant was awarded in the last half of FY 2017; therefore, the actual refurbishment will take place in FY 2018.

Time has taken its toll on the simulator since delivery in 2009 and it is in need of multiple repairs to bring it back to full capabilities. Specifications were developed and a contract awarded for the work. As this report is written, the unit is in Ohio being refurbished. Work is expected to be completed in March 2018.

2015 AFG Funded Training Tower & Semi-Tractor

The Institute took delivery of a new Freightliner Business Class Semi Tractor mid-summer of 2017. A little over a month later, a new 36’ Mobile Training Tower was delivered. The tower is built on a semi-trailer frame and is raised/lowered with hydraulic rams. Equipped with “bomb proof” anchor points for rope rescue training, a standpipe system, windows at three internal floors and a flat deck on top, the tower is designed to support a wide variety of training, including rope rescue, ground ladders, aerial ladder operations, firefighting in multi-level structures and a host of other topics.

Delivered in July 2017, the new Mobile Training Tower is in service and assisting in the delivery of valuable training.

KDEM HMEP Training Sub-Grant

The Kansas Division of Emergency Management through the federal Hazardous Material Emergency Preparedness (HMEP) grant program awarded the Institute a grant to support hazardous materials-related training at the Institute. This $25,000 sub-grant supports delivery of training in Hazardous Materials Operations, Responding to Ethanol Incidents, Responding to Chlorine and Anhydrous Ammonia Incidents, Alternative Fuel Vehicle, Handling Propane Emergencies, and Hazardous Materials on Scene Commander.

NFA State Training Systems Grant

The Institute also received a $20,000 grant from the U.S. Department of Homeland Security’s National Fire Academy that funds the delivery of a specific list of National Fire Academy courses in Kansas. The Institute has received financial assistance through this grant since 2009.

Traffic Incident Management (TIM) Grant

Working with the Kansas Department of Transportation, we secured a $60,000 grant to support the delivery of Traffic Incident Management training to all Kansas first responders for two years. The Institute manages training delivery for this program; however,
the success of this program has been accomplished through a partnership with KDOT, the Highway Patrol, and many other fire, law and EMS organizations. The goal of this program is to reduce the number of emergency responder injuries and deaths while operating at incidents on the highways and roadways. Although limited to this specific subject matter, the funding helps support our programs while providing lifesaving training for Kansas firefighters, police officers, emergency medical technicians and other responders to traffic incidents. The efforts of our partnership have increased the number of Kansas first responders trained in this subject significantly. While it is hard to document prevention of injuries and deaths, the Federal Highway Administration recently praised the Kansas program for improvements in training responders through this important course.

Since the program began in March of 2017 this program has delivered 48 TIM courses training 984 emergency responders. Within these numbers we have conducted 26 train-the-trainer sessions training 122 instructors. To request a Traffic Incident Management course for your area or department, contact KFRTI at 866-804-8841 (toll free) or email kufire@ku.edu.

The Institute has invested over 3.5 million dollars over the last 14 years to purchase props and other dedicated training resources to improve firefighter training in Kansas. These resources include:

**Props and Training Support Units**
- Interior Firefighting Simulator
- Flammable Liquids & Gases Simulator
- Technical Rescue Support Unit
- Search & Rescue Training Unit
- Firefighter Skills Training Unit
- Emergency Fire Service Driving Simulator
- Grain Rescue Trainer
- Trench Rescue Training Unit
- Rural Water Supply Training Unit
- Rope Rescue Training Unit
- National Certification Testing Support Unit
- Surface Water Rescue Training Unit

**Tow Vehicles**
- Semi-Tractors (3 units)
- Heavy Duty Pickup Trucks (3 units)

These props and support units include Semi-trailers and Bumper hitch trailers, as well as a significant amount of equipment that is housed in the units. The tow vehicles are dedicated tow vehicles used to transport props and support units to training locations throughout Kansas.
NEW LEARNING MANAGEMENT SYSTEM (LMS) IMPLEMENTED

KU Professional & Continuing Education (our parent organization) implemented a new learning management system in June 2017. This system includes many new and improved capabilities. Some of the new features include an online registration system, the ability to print your own certificates, the ability to print an “unofficial” transcript of training and the ability to pay fees on line (for those few times the Institute charges a fee).

To maximize the benefits of this system, all participating students need to log in to the new system and create a personal profile. That profile allows you access to view records and print certificates (and/or duplicate certificates if yours has been lost). By creating a profile, you also give us critical information and assistance in making sure you get the most benefit from the system. Your email address is the key (think critical) link in the process. The system uses your unique email address to identify you, so it is very important that you remember to update your profile (email address) when changes occur. This will ensure that you get registration confirmations, notification that your certificate is ready to print and special notifications related to your participation in the KFRTI and Professional & Continuing Education courses and activities. The new LMS does not include records before June 22, 2017. Contact KFRTI if you have questions or need information prior to June 2017.

If you have not created a personal profile in the new system since July 2017 please visit the KFRTI website and click on the See Available Courses link (about ½ way down the page). In the blue box on the top, left side of the page, click the “Create Profile/Sign In” link and follow the directions. When completing the profile, please complete all blanks that apply. Leaving the Organization – Dept. name blank, for example, creates problems tracking individuals (there are a lot of Jim Smiths out there). We look forward to serving you with this new resource.

FISCAL MATTERS

The Institute’s financial status remains stable and healthy. This stability is due to the conservative fiscal philosophy maintained by the Institute. In the early years of receiving Fire Insurance Premium Tax funds, programs were rapidly expanded from 76 total deliveries in FY 2002 to over 500 programs in FY 2006. Since that time, the number of programs/courses has stabilized at approximately 500 through FY 2017. Program growth has been constrained by the limited growth of our fiscal resources. All expansion of programs has been carefully planned to remain within our ability to fund them over the long-term. Fire Insurance Tax funds have not grown as originally estimated in 2004. Although the number of training programs delivered has stabilized, expenses associated with delivering services have continued to rise. Mileage, meal and lodging reimbursement rates, turnpike tolls, and other costs associated with travel have all increased. The cost of goods and services required for operations has also increased. Some of the basic firefighter courses continue to lengthen due to expanding content required by the national standards. None of these single factors have increased the costs substantially; however, the cumulative effect of these increases, combined with limited growth in Fire Insurance Premium Tax funding, restrain our ability to grow programs to meet the ever-expanding training needs of the Kansas fire service.

Careful management of our resources has allowed continued firefighter training without having to limit the number of events provided. Conservative budget management will continue to be the guiding principle. The Institute has need for facilities to store and maintain equipment and vehicles. All equipment and vehicles are stored at the University Motor Pool in an unsecured parking lot. Maintenance must be performed in the open elements. Institute office space is full with no room for expansion as our program grows in the future. Equipment storage and housing is the most critical need. Storing over three million dollars of equipment and vehicles in the open environment subjects that equipment to damage...
from exposure to extremes of temperature, sunlight, hail and related deterioration. These needs remain unfunded.

**Operating Budget (State & KU funding)**

The Institute’s primary funding is provided through KSA 75-1508 that provides .20 of the 1.25% tax on Fire Insurance Premiums. In FY 2017 the Institute received $1,288,475 from this source. The University provided $188,397 in support of our mission. These funds provided a total operating budget of $1,476,872.

At the end of FY 2016 the Institute was notified of a $70,000 budget cut from KU funding for FY 2017. That reduction is reflected in the previous paragraph. KU funding was reduced an additional $16,000 for FY 2018. KU has suffered a number of budget cuts over the past few years.

Operating expenses totaled $1,247,306 in FY 2017. Operating expenses do not include equipment purchase or expenses related to program improvements. Equipment and program improvement expenses are funded from carry-forward funds accumulated from previous years. This practice is required due to the cost for props and equipment which typically range from $200,000 to over $400,000. These purchases cannot be made from our operating budget and require us to save carry-forward funds from multiple years before making individual prop purchases. Purchases referred to in this section include refurbishing/repairing props as they age in order to extend their serviceable life. The cost for refurbishing a prop is approximately ½ of the cost of a new prop. A current example is the Institute’s Flammable Liquids and Gases trailer. That trailer is being refurbished as this report is being written. The contracted cost of this refurbishment is $204,000. Replacement cost of this unit is approximately $500,000. The Institute received a grant for this expense, but this grant is a competitive grant and cannot be counted on for the expenses in the future.

The conservative fiscal policies of the Institute have allowed for the uninterrupted delivery of training to the 650 fire departments and 16,500+ firefighters in Kansas. The Institute has also made many improvements in the training infrastructure needed for a realistic and high-quality training experience for our firefighters. Future fiscal constraints will require continuing our conservative budget management practices. Program expansion and improvements will be affected first should the current budget environment continue into the future. The Institute will continue to keep delivering training to firefighters as our first priority.
## FY 2017 Financial Facts

**Kansas Cities/Organizations Served In FY 2017 (420)**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>State &amp; Generated Funding</th>
<th>FY 2016</th>
<th>FY 2017</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Fire Insurance Premium Tax:</td>
<td>$1,253,861.81</td>
<td>$1,288,475</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>KU Funding Support:</td>
<td>$269,532.26</td>
<td>$188,387</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Generated Income (private sector training, certification fees, annual fire seminars):</td>
<td></td>
<td>$250,796.63</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total Funding (state &amp; generated income):</strong></td>
<td>$1,774,290.70</td>
<td>$1,702,121</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

| Operating Expenses (State & Generated Funding) | General Operating Expenses: | $1,464,015 | $1,338,040 |
| | AFG Cost Share (paid from carryforward funds): | $58,695 | $48,871 |
| | **Total** | $214,104 | $84,357 |

| Grant Funding Awarded | AFG Grants - Driving Simulator – Training Tower (federal share): | $391,305 | $330,435 |
| | State Training Program Assistance Grant (FEMA/DHS): | $20,000 | $20,000 |
| | Traffic Incident Management Grant (KDOT) – 2 year grant: | | $60,000 |
| | Hazardous Materials Emergency Preparedness Grant (KDEM): | | $25,000 |
| | **Total Grant Funding:** | $411,305 | $435,435 |

*Note: The Assistance to Firefighters Grant awarded in the spring of 2017 ($300,000 to refurbish the Flammable Liquids and Gases training unit) will be included in the 2018 report. Expenses and cost share payments will be paid between February and June of 2018 (still in progress as this report is being prepared).*
Arkansas
Mackville FD
Mackville PD
Madison VFD
Manhattan FD
Marshall Co. EM
Maryville FD
Mayetta Fire Dist. #1
McPherson FD
Meade FD
Metro Topeka Airport Authority
Mid-West Fire Training
Milford VFD
Mission Twp. FD
Montezuma FD
Montgomery Co. Attorney
Montgomery Co. Rural Fire Dist. #1
Montgomery Co. Sheriff's Dept.
Moran Matmattion – Osage FD
Moran FD
Morrill FD
Mound City PD
Mount Hope FD
MTAA Police & Fire Dept.
Muldane FD
Natoma Corp.
Nemaha Co. EMS
Nemaha Valley Comm. Hospital
Neodesha FD
Neodesha PD
Neosho Co. Sheriff's Dept.
Neosho Twp. FD
Neola PD
Ness Co. EM
Ness Co. Fire Dist. #1
Ness Co. Fire Dist. #2
Netawaka Rural Fire Dist. #6
Newton Fire/EMS
Newton Water Dept.
Norcatur RDF
North Central Kansas Coop
Northwest Cons. Fire Dist.
Norton Co. Rural Fire Dist. #2
Norton Correctional Facility
Norton Co. EMS
Norton FD

North Dakota

Ohio

Oklahoma
Ardmore, OK FD

Other Organizations Served (27)

Arkansas
Rogers, AR FD

California
Bakersfield, CA

Colorado
Black Hawk, CO FD
Copper Mountain, CO FD
Foothills Fire Rescue, Evergreen, CO
Lake City, CO Area Fire Prot. Leadville/Lake Co., CO FD
Loveland, CO Fire Rescue Authority

Missouri
Gladstone, MO FD
Kansas City, MO
Kearney, MO FD
Lee's Summit, MO
Lone Jack, MO Fire Protection Dist.
North Kansas City Fire Dept., MO
St Charles, MO
Raytown, MO Fire Protection Dist.
St Joseph, MO FD
SNL Valley Fire Prot. Dist., Oak Grove, MO

Union Pacific Railroad, Kansas City, MO
West Platte Fire Protection District, Weston, MO

Nebraska
City of Papillion, NE FD
Omaha, NE

New York
Orchard Farm Fire Protection Dist., Rochester, NY FD

Oklahoma

South Coffeyville, OK Resources LLC
Healdton, OK FD

Wisconsin
The DeLong Co., Inc, Clinton WI

Kansas Fire & Rescue Training Institute | 11
The University of Kansas
Professional & Continuing Education
1515 Saint Andrews Drive
Lawrence, KS 66047-1619

**Services**
- Training for free or low fees
- Training record resources
- National certification
- Technical resources
- National Fire Academy state point of contact
- Liaison with other organizations

**Types of Training**
- Firefighting Skills
- Technical Rescue
- Fire Officer
- Fire Instructor
- Hazardous Materials
- Tactics and Strategies
- Incident Command
- Arson Identification
- Fire Apparatus
- Fire Inspection
- Response to Terrorist Incidents
- Other topics available by request

**Methods of Delivery**
- Direct (by institute instructors)
- In-house (by department instructors)
- Regional (fire schools and conferences)

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**KFRTI STAFF**

**Cheryl Wagner**
Administrative Associate
Service since 2004
Programs Supported:
- National Certification

**Joliene Lummis**
Administrative Associate
Service since 2008
Programs Supported:
- Firefighter & Instructor Training

**Marissa Marshall**
Administrative Associate
Service since 2017
Programs Supported:
- Technical Rescue & Fire Officer

**Pattie Shay**
Business Coordinator
Service since 2015
Programs Assignment:
- Business Operations,
  Support Staff Supervisor

**Mike Cook**
Program Manager
Service since: 2013
Programs Managed:
- Transportation & Firefighter Training

**David (Dave) Couvelha**
Program Manager
Service since: 2005
Programs Managed:
- National Certification

**Russell (Rusty) Greene**
Program Manager
Service since: 2014
Programs Managed:
- Fire Officer Training, Traffic Incident Management Training

**David (Dave) Ford**
Program Coordinator
Service since: 2008
Programs Managed:
- Fire Instructor Curriculum Development

**Mark Billquist**
Program Coordinator
Service since: 2016
Programs Managed:
- Firefighter Training

**Benjamin (Ben) Green**
Program Coordinator
Service since: 2017
Programs Managed:
- Technical Rescue

**Glenn Pribbenow**
Director
Service since: 1997