

# KENTUCKY ASSOCIATION OF FIRE CHIEFS



Your November Newsletter

11-2024

## A Message from the President

Dear Kentucky Fire Chiefs and Department Leaders,

As the temperatures drop and winter approaches, I want to take a moment to thank each of you for your unwavering commitment to protecting our communities. The challenges we face this season may be different from those of the past, but with the same spirit of readiness and resilience, I am confident we can navigate them successfully.

### Winter Preparedness: A Priority for All

Winter brings unique operational challenges for fire and emergency services, from hazardous road conditions to increased fire risks in homes due to heating equipment. This is a crucial time to review and reinforce our winter preparedness plans.

**\*\*1. Cold Weather Operations:** Review protocols for cold-weather operations with your crews. Ensure that all equipment and vehicles are winterized, and that your teams are familiar with cold-weather gear and safety procedures. A well-maintained fleet and properly equipped personnel will minimize the risk of equipment failures and injuries during emergency responses.

**\*\*2. Training and Drills:** This season is an excellent opportunity to

conduct winter-specific training. Consider focusing on scenarios like ice rescues, structural fires in freezing conditions, and vehicle extrications on icy roads. Practical training will keep your teams sharp and ready to respond effectively when seconds count.

**\*\*3. Community Engagement:** Winter is also a peak season for home heating fires. Let's remind our communities about the importance of safety measures such as checking smoke alarms, properly maintaining heating systems, and using space heaters safely. A proactive approach in public education can prevent many emergencies and save lives.

### **Supporting Each Other: A Season of Unity**

I encourage you to stay connected with your fellow fire chiefs throughout the state. Sharing experiences, resources, and strategies can be invaluable as we tackle the challenges of the winter months. Our collective knowledge is one of our greatest strengths.

If you have innovative solutions or best practices that have worked well in your department, consider sharing them through our Association's communication channels. Let's ensure that every department, regardless of size or resources, benefits from the collective expertise of our dedicated fire service leaders.

### **Looking Ahead**

As we prepare for winter, let's also take a moment to reflect on the year we've had. 2024 has been a year of growth and adaptation, and I am proud of how our fire service community has come together to meet every challenge. Your dedication, leadership, and commitment to excellence continue to inspire me and the Association as a whole.

I am excited to see what we will achieve together in the coming months and am committed to supporting each of you in your mission to protect and serve. Remember, the Kentucky Association of Fire Chiefs is here to support you. Please do not hesitate to reach out if you need assistance, resources, or just a sounding board for new ideas.

Thank you for all you do, and I wish you, your teams, and your families a safe and healthy winter season.

Yours in service,

Chief Nathan Mulvey  
President, Kentucky Association of Fire Chiefs

## Bulletin Board



# SEAFC

Recruitment and Retention Survey  
2024

**WE WANT TO HEAR FROM YOU!**





*97th Annual*

# SEAFC/TFCA JOINT LEADERSHIP CONFERENCE

JULY 15-17, 2025  
EMBASSY SUITES FRANKLIN, TENN.



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OVER FOR  
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## Louisville Fire Department and CPSE invite you to attend the

Quality Improvement for the Fire and Emergency Services Workshop  
November 19 – 21, 2024

### Location

Louisville Fire Academy  
1501 W. Hill St  
Louisville, KY 40210

### Time

0800-1700 hours each day

Professional/business casual  
attire required

### Host Agency Contact

Major Kyle Fekete, Chief of  
Special Projects  
(O) 502-574-3701  
[kyle.fekete@louisvilleky.gov](mailto:kyle.fekete@louisvilleky.gov)

### Registration Fees

Early Registration: \$650 – ends  
October 22  
Regular Registration: \$675  
Registration closes: November 9,  
or until full, whichever occurs  
first.

Onsite registration is **not**  
permitted.

[Click Here to Register](#)

### Learning Objectives:

- The steps in the self-assessment process, from building a team to becoming an accredited agency.
- The key elements of the accreditation process:
  - Creating planning zones for your response area.
  - Establishing a risk assessment process.
  - Applying the risk assessment process to your response area.
  - Developing a critical tasking process.
  - Determine needed resources for fire and non-fire risks.
  - Assess current deployment practices and establish target performance goals.
  - Develop response performance data.
  - Key elements of a Strategic Plan.
  - How to create a self-assessment manual.

### Benefits of Accreditation:

- Provides greater community alignment.
- Encourages quality improvement.
- Facilitates input from and builds positive relationships with labor.
- Identifies strengths and weaknesses.
- Offers independent verification and validation.
- Identifies strengths and weaknesses.
- Provides for data supported decision-making.
- Communicates management and leadership philosophies.

*Adapt | Own | Grow | Stay Relevant | Embody*

# EASTERN KENTUCKY UNIVERSITY (EKU) ADVANTAGE PROGRAM

KENTUCKY  
ASSOCIATION OF  
FIRE CHIEFS

## THE EKU ADVANTAGE PROGRAM APPLIES TO ONLINE OR IN PERSON CLASSES AND INCLUDES THE FOLLOWING BENEFITS:



Kentucky Association of Fire Chiefs members are eligible to participate in the ECU Advantage Program.



ECU will award KAFC members a 25% flat-rate tuition discount\* for all on-campus or online programs. Plus, get a 20% discount on ECU's Workforce Development courses.



All undergraduate and graduate students receive free books for their classes.



Enhanced customer service assistance to members and contractors to expedite and prioritize the admissions process, class registration, financial aid and scholarship applications.



Dedicated academic advisors provide individualized attention to move students quickly towards degree completion.

*\*The ECU Advantage program cannot be combined with other ECU Scholarships.*



KENTUCKY ASSOCIATION  
OF FIRE CHIEFS

**EKU**

### CONTACT

**Benton Shirey, Director, Corporate Educational Partnerships | Office of Enrollment Management**

Benton.shirey@eku.edu | (859) 200-0162 | corporate.eku.edu  
521 Lancaster Avenue | CPO 54, Whitlock 144 | Richmond, KY 40475-3163

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## Corporate Members





## Training Resources



At the Kentucky Association of Fire Chiefs, we believe addressing potential problems **BEFORE** they occur is the key to minimizing risk. That's why we've partnered with **Lexipol**, the leader in public safety training and wellness support.

Through this partnership, **KAFC members can receive special discounts on**

**Lexipol's services**, including:

More than 1,000 training courses and videos—representing 440+ CEUs— available any time, online through **FireRescue1 Academy**.

- Meets the approval of the **Kentucky Fire Commission**
- Integrates Kentucky EMS codes for quick search results and compliance confirmation
- Offers flexible and convenient online courses available 24/7 from a phone, tablet or computer
- Manages and assigns training in a single step
- Creates and runs on-demand reports for easy assignment tracking

Confidential wellness and mental health support resources through the **Cordico wellness solution**.

- Guidance on more than 60 public safety wellness topics, from fitness and nutrition to posttraumatic stress and health habits
- Anonymous self-assessments to screen for compassion fatigue, sleep issues, alcohol abuse and more
- Exclusive leadership and wellness content with Echelon Front's Jocko Willink
- Mobile one-touch calling to peer support
- Therapist finder
- Customized with your agency's badge and department resources

Plus, Lexipol provides fire service professionals with the latest news, analysis and commentary through its media site, **FireRescue1**.

Learn why more than 2 million first responders and local government officials use Lexipol to help them operate at a higher **standard**.

Contact **info@lexipol.com** to learn more or **schedule a demo**

**Cooperative Purchasing**

**Sourcewell...Click Here, Save Now!**

## Sourcewell – More Than Just the Big Ticket Items



When fire chiefs think of [Sourcewell](#) contracts, they often think about buying big ticket items like fire apparatus, ambulances, radios, and SCBA. These are higher cost purchases that typically need to be competitively bid to meet an agency's procurement requirements.

But did you know that Sourcewell also offers contracts for everyday things like [office supplies](#) and [furniture, computers, and janitorial supplies](#)? Even if you aren't required to issue an RFP, you can enjoy Sourcewell best value pricing on the goods and services you need every day to run your fire departments.

Sourcewell works for all types of fire departments - career, combination, and volunteer. Even the smallest of volunteer departments is receiving public money – in the form of both tax dollars and community donations. Maintaining the public trust and using those donations appropriately is critical to ongoing community support. Taking advantage of the many Sourcewell contracts available to you ensures that you are using your fire department funds effectively, efficiently, and appropriately, and that you are getting the best value, doing so with a low level of effort on your already overtaxed volunteers.

## Links

Click the links below to see the latest News and Events from our friends!

[Fire Commission](#) --- [KBEMS](#) --- [KFA](#)

[Smoke Signals II](#) --- [SEAFC](#) --- [IAFC](#)

[NFPA](#) --- [ISO - Verisk](#)

Kentucky Association of Fire Chiefs | 14937 Cool Springs Blvd | Union, KY 41091 US

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