KF&RTI offers Introduction to Technical Rescue course. Having trouble viewing this email? View it in your browser.

The Kansas Fire & Rescue Training Institute is pleased to announce an Introduction to Technical Rescue course. This course will be offered in two formats: blended and traditional. The blended format utilizes online and classroom/hands-on formats for the delivery. The traditional format is delivered entirely face-to-face and includes 40 hours of instruction. With the implementation of this course, the training required for national certification as a Technical Rescuer (currently Rope, Confined Space & Structural Collapse) is being made more accessible. Candidates now have two choices for how to obtain this critical training.

**Background:** When the Institute provides training for which a national professional qualifications standard applies (the 1000 series of NFPA standards), we adopt the standard and design all courses to meet that standard. Currently the Institute offers training and national certification for seven different disciplines and 22 specific levels (see our web page for a complete listing).

The *NFPA 1006 Technical Rescuer Standard, 2013 Edition*, identifies the knowledge and performance requirements for those persons seeking national certification as a Technical Rescuer. Fourteen different disciplines of Technical Rescuers are identified by Chapters 6–19 of this standard. Each of those chapters specifies a different technical discipline. Chapter 5 of the *NFPA 1006 Standard* establishes common knowledge and skills required for all of the disciplines and levels within this standard.

The Introduction to Technical Rescue course is designed to meet the objectives of the *NFPA 1006 Technical Rescuer Standard, Chapter 5, 2013 Edition*. This chapter contains requirements for all candidates seeking national certification at any level within the standard. The Institute is accredited to award national certifications for the following six disciplines/levels from the *NFPA 1006 Standard, 2013 Edition*:

- Confined Space Rescue I & II
- Rope Rescue I & II
- Structural Collapse I & II

*NFPA 1006, Chapter 5, 2013 Edition* objectives are required for all of the disciplines and levels of this standard. Chapter 5 is **NOT** a separate level of certification—it is **PART OF** the requirements for every discipline/level of certification included in this standard.

Other potential Technical Rescue disciplines that the Institute hopes to gain accreditation for in the future (does not currently have accreditation) are:
When national certification for these disciplines/levels is made available, the requirement of attending Introduction to Technical Rescue (NFPA 1006, Chapter 5, 2013 Edition) objectives will apply.

Exam & Documentation for National Certification as a Technical Rescuer: At the end of the Introduction to Technical Rescue course, participants will be tested to the requirements of NFPA 1006 Technical Rescue, Chapter 5, 2013 Edition. This exam will include a written and skills exam.

The results of this exam will be recorded in the Institute’s National Certification database and remain valid for the life of the current edition of the NFPA Technical Rescuer standard (normally 5 years). A national certification will not be issued for satisfactory completion of the NFPA 1006, Chapter 5, 2013 Edition testing. Results will be kept on record and applied to the results of national certification exam result for Rope Rescue I/II, Confined Space Rescue I/II or Structural Collapse Rescue I/II.

All candidates/students successfully completing the Introduction to Technical Rescue course will not have to repeat the ITR course throughout the life of the current edition of the standard. When a new edition of the NFPA 1006 standard is published, the ITR course will be revised to meet the requirements of the new edition of the NFPA 1006 standard. Anyone seeking national certification at any discipline or level specified by the new edition of the standard will be required to take the updated ITR course (and pass the written and skills exam) prior to taking additional technical rescue courses.

Blended Course Delivery: The blended course will be offered in two parts much like the Institute’s blended Instructor I course. Part 1 will be taken online and Part 2 will be delivered in a face-to-face workshop/seminar.

**Part 1 (online):** Students will register and complete Part 1 in an online format. After registering for the course, students will be sent instructions via email for how to log-in to create their login and password (required for access). Students complete the online portion at their own pace from their computer via their web browser and the internet. This portion of the course covers the knowledge portions of the course (as specified by NFPA 1006 Technical Rescuer Standard, Chapter 5, 2013 Edition). While no time limit is placed on completion of Part 1 (online), students are encouraged to complete the course as quickly as possible. EMS-related material required by the NFPA 1006 standard is not covered by this course. See EMS requirements of NFPA 1006 below.

**Part 2 (face-to-face):** After successfully completing Part 1, students will enroll (and participate) in Part 2. Part 2 is a traditional face-to-face course in which the "hands-on" skills are taught. Part 2 is designed as a condensed workshop focusing on the skills required by Chapter 5. This workshop is designed as a three-day workshop, but may be shortened if students meet the objectives in a shorter time. Students should plan on a three-day course. Part 2 course locations will be offered at preselected sites every year. Those locations may be moved to accommodate student locations and more sites may be scheduled to accommodate student needs and locations. Part 2 will be followed by Chapter 5 testing. Testing requires an additional day. If the course takes three days, the testing day extends the course to four days.

Traditional Delivery (face-to-face): The traditional course will be taught in a 40-hour format normally taking five days to complete. All requirements of Chapter 5 will be covered in this course (except EMS objectives as stated below). Traditional deliveries are subject to the Institute’s minimum number of students and appropriate facilities requirements. Contact the Institute for details.

EMS Requirements of NFPA 1006, Chapter 5, 2013 Edition: Special note: The Board of EMS uses the term “certification” for levels of EMS individual qualifications (EMR, EMT, Paramedic). For the purpose of this section, the word “certification” will be preceded by “EMS” or “Fire Service” in an effort to minimize confusion. Elsewhere in this text, when the word “certification” (or “National Certification”) appears, we are referring to the Fire Service National Certification program provided by the Kansas Fire & Rescue Training Institute.

NFPA 1006, Chapter 5 (and many of the discipline-specific levels/chapters) of this standard include many skills at the EMS First Responder level. The Institute does not have the mission, funding or the authority from the Kansas Board of EMS (KBEMS) to teach these EMS Certification levels. Therefore an alternate method of verifying the EMS-related knowledge and skills is required.

Persons seeking Fire Service National Certification as a Technical Rescuer will be required to provide documentation of Kansas EMS Certification as a First Responder or above (EMR, EMT or Paramedic) as a
requirement prior to participating in training and Fire Service National Certification at any level of Technical Rescuer.

Kansas Board of EMS Certification will be verified via the KBEMS system. Appropriate documentation of this certification may be submitted by sharing the BEMS certification number or a copy of the KBEMS certification card (with number clearly visible). The Institute will verify the certification with the Kansas BEMS. While some of these skills may be incidentally included in a Technical Rescue skills test—taking vital signs before moving a victim, stabilizing victims prior to moving them, etc.—there will not be any EMS-related questions on the written exam or EMS-specific skills stations on Technical Rescue certification exams. Testing for EMS skills and knowledge is tested in the KBEMS Emergency Medical Responder exam (and other level exams). This meets the testing requirement for EMS skills in Technical Rescuer. No further testing is required of EMS knowledge or skills after obtaining EMR (or higher) certification.

EMS Certification as specified above is **NOT** required prior to taking Introduction to Technical Rescue (online or traditional) courses. EMS Certification as specified above **IS** required PRIOR to taking any of the following Technical Rescue courses:

- Confined Space Rescue I & II
- Rope Rescue I & II
- Structural Collapse Rescue I & II

**Non-Certification Training Track**

The Institute also offers seven technical rescue courses that are offered for Successful Completion Certificates and are not eligible for National Fire Service Certification. Those courses do not require students to meet the requirements of the NFPA 1006 Technical Rescuer Standard, the Chapter 5 requirements, or the KBEMS-certified Emergency Medical Responder training requirements. As these courses are revised in the future, national certification may become available for selected courses.

The non-certification courses currently offered are:

- Confined Space Rescue
- Fundamentals of Rope Rescue
- Machinery/Vehicle Rescue
- Rope Rescue Advanced
- Structural Collapse Rescue
- Surface Water Rescue
- Trench Rescue

The Non-Certification Training Track is designed for firefighters not wishing to gain national certification and for those courses that do not have a national certification available. Upon successful completion of courses in this track, a Certificate of Successful Completion (training certificate) will be issued.

Students completing courses in this category (non-certification track) and later wishing to certify will be required to complete all steps of the Fire Service National Certification Track as illustrated in the diagram following this section. Non-certification track courses may not include all requirements of the national standard. If students wish to challenge the national certification exam based on their participation in a non-certification track course, students are responsible for the all performance objectives included in the national standard.

The best approach is to take the courses designed for national certification if you think you may want to obtain national certification. The non-certification training track is NOT a shortcut to national certification.

If you are unsure about which track you should choose, please contact the Kansas Fire & Rescue Training Institute. We will work with you to help make sure your decisions on training are consistent with current and future plans for your department.
Activities Sequence for Technical Rescue Training & Fire National Certification
PRE-REGISTRATION REQUIRED FOR ALL TECHNICAL RESCUE COURSES

Fire Service National Certification Track

Step 1
- Complete Traditional (face-to-face) Introduction to Technical Rescue course
- Complete Part 1 (online) Introduction to Technical Rescue (ITR) course
- Complete Part 2 (face-to-face) Introduction to Technical Rescue (ITR) Course

Steps 2 & 3 are completed at the conclusion of ITR course. Step 4 must be completed before Step 5.

Step 2
- Complete National Certification Application Form (used to capture information for records — no fees charged at this time)

Step 3
- Pass Introduction to Technical Rescue (Chapter 5) Exam (Written & Skills Exam)

Step 4
- Obtain Kansas Emergency Medical First Responder (or above) Certification from Kansas Board of EMS

Steps 5 & 6 may only be completed AFTER steps 1-4.

Step 5
- Schedule/Register/Complete Technical Rescue course
  - Rope Rescue I - Rope Rescue II - Confined Space Rescue I & II - Structural Collapse Rescue I & II
- Complete National Certification Application
- Pay Certification Fee
- Take National Certification Exam

Fire Service National Certification Awarded for levels earned
- Rope Rescue I
- Rope Rescue II
- Structural Collapse I & II
- Confined Space I & II

Non-Certification Track

Register for Non-certification course.

Complete Non-Certification Course
Courses include:
- Fundamentals of Rope Rescue
- Rope Rescue Advanced
- Confined Space Rescue
- Trench Rescue
- Structural Collapse Rescue
- Surface Water Rescue
- Machinery/Vehicle Rescue

Certificate of Training issued for successful completion
- Fundamentals of Rope Rescue
- Rope Rescue - Advanced
- Confined Space Rescue
- Trench Rescue
- Structural Collapse Rescue
- Surface Water Rescue
- Machinery/Vehicle Rescue

Download a PDF of the Certification Chart here.

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