



Friday Class- All day

16. Beyond the Call: Mutual Aid US&R and The Future of Disaster Response in Kentucky

Instructor: Doug Hargreaves, State Urban Search & Rescue Coordinator

NEW for 2026

Kentucky is entering a new era of coordinated emergency response—one built on shared resources, clear processes, and a unified mission. This session provides an in-depth look at the next generation of disaster response in the Commonwealth and how local agencies and emergency services can benefit from the evolving system.

Students will explore:

- **The Evolution of the Kentucky Mutual Aid System (KMAS):** What a mission request will look like for both the requesting agency and the responding agency, including the introduction of the new statewide resource portal that will enhance visibility of deployable assets across the Commonwealth.
- **Kentucky Urban Search & Rescue (KY US&R):** An overview of the program's structure and capabilities, and how KY US&R can support your community during complex and large-scale emergencies.
- **Streamlined Reimbursement Processes:** A simplified explanation of future reimbursement procedures, required documentation, and what agencies can expect when seeking cost recovery for deployments.
- **The Future of the ESF 4/9 Desk:** A look at the evolving ESF 4/9 mission, how requests and deployments will be coordinated, and the enhanced support structure for fire, rescue, and US&R operations.
- **Incident Support Teams (ISTs):** What they are, why they matter, and how Kentucky will shape IST capabilities to enhance command, control, and logistical support for extended incidents.

This class is designed for fire departments, rescue squads, emergency managers, law enforcement partners, and anyone who may request or provide assistance in a statewide disaster. It's time to be ready for the incident beyond the kingdom walls—where collaboration replaces silos and Kentucky responds as one.