



Kentucky State Fire School

Lexington, KY

June 10-14, 2026



112 Vehicle Rescue & Winching Operations

This class is designed for the first responder that wants to take their rescue skills to the next level! This hybrid class of auto extrication, heavy vehicle rescue, and winching operations will provide the student with the knowledge and skills to mitigate vehicle stabilization and extrication encounters from simple to complex. Participants will be challenged to work individually and in teams to respond to increasingly complex rescue scenarios. This hands-on training course is physically demanding.

The auto extrication portion of the class will cover stabilization including basic wood cribbing, struts and other methods; the heavy rescue portion of the class will cover car/truck under ride, commercial trucks, busses, and heavy lifting.

The winching operations portion of the class equips students with the skills needed for safe and competent winch operation in both automobile and heavy rescue scenarios. Building on a solid understanding of extrication and stabilization, students will learn how winches function, how to prepare and maintain winch systems, and how to perform essential calculations including load estimation, resistance, line load, rigging angles, load angles, mechanical advantage, and weight transfer. This portion also covers rigging principles, working load limits, the use of multiple winches, and integrating heavy wreckers into rescue operations.

PRE-REQUISITES/EQUIPMENT NEEDED

Participants will need a solid foundation of the basics of extrication and stabilization and 3-years' experience with rescue techniques and tools. Participants will need helmet, gloves, jumpsuit or turnout gear, fire/rescue footwear, safety glasses, pen, paper and a calculating device (smart phone calculator is permitted). No SCBA is required.

Special thanks to Robert's Towing for their support of this course!

This course will be held off-site.

This 3-day course will be offered Thursday-Saturday.

Co-Instructor: David Walters, State Fire Rescue Training District 5

Co-Instructor: Matt Nelson, South Oldham Fire Department

**2026 Kentucky State Fire School
Central Bank Center
410 W. Vine Street, Lexington, KY**