

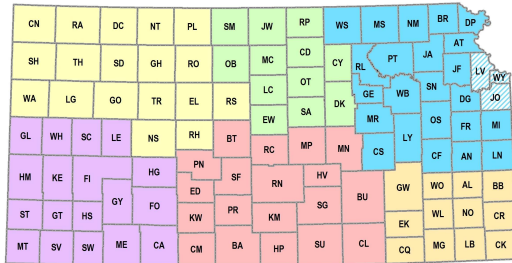
Are KEMA Members Certified?

KEMA's Board of Directors formally adopted the initial Certified Emergency Manager (CEM) guidelines in 1990, and approved modifications to the guidelines in 1992 for re-certifications of CEMs. Under KAR 56-2-2, all county emergency managers are required to be KCEMs. The designation was changed in 1997 to Kansas Certified Emergency Manager (KCEM).

KCEMs are required to have at least two (2) years of emergency experience, maintain participation in exercises, planning, and maintain professional or continued education and training.

The KEMA Board

The KEMA Board of Directors consists of a President, President Elect, Past President, Secretary, Treasurer, and regional Vice Presidents. These Vice Presidents are elected from each of the following six (6) KEMA Regions in Kansas: Northwest, North Central, Northeast, Southwest, South Central, and South East.



What Else Does KEMA Offer?

At our annual conference, KEMA, in cooperation with the Kansas Division of Emergency Management (KDEM) and the Department of Homeland Security's Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA), provides a significant training opportunity to our members of the emergency community.

KEMA in support with KDEM can provide outreach and onsite support for new county Emergency Manager's.

Does KEMA Have an Awards Program?



Over the years, KEMA has instituted a number of awards for presentation to both its members as well as those outside the association who have served the goals of the association and exemplified outstanding performance and service. The following awards are given:

LIFE MEMBERSHIP: Any regular member who has contributed significantly to the purposes of the association over a period of years.

HONORARY MEMBERSHIP: Any person who has made an outstanding contribution to the association.

EM PROFESSIONAL OF THE YEAR: Presented to an Emergency Manager for exceptional leadership and public service for a number of years.

OUTSTANDING NEW EM PROFESSIONAL: Presented to a new EM professional with less than 2 years service who has made improvements and showed enthusiasm in the program.

OUTSTANDING SERVICE AWARD: Recognizes those individuals or agencies, either inside or outside the association, who have put forth significant effort, either during a specified period of service or for a specific action or accomplishment, which furthers the aims of the association.

OUTSTANDING EM SUPPORT AWARD: Recognizes an individual who serves in a support capacity in the field of emergency management.

INSTRUCTOR OF THE YEAR: Given to an instructor who has performed exemplary service in training.

Where Can I Find More Information?

Further information about the KEMA and its organization can be found online at

<http://www.kema.org>

For further information on Emergency Management in your area, contact your local Emergency Management office.



PROFESSIONALISM

TEAMWORK

RESPONSIVENESS

LEADERSHIP



“Working together for the people of Kansas”

Kansas Emergency Management Association (KEMA)

What is Emergency Management?



Most of us don't want to think about disasters; however, in order to save lives and protect property, *somebody* has to. In Kansas, it is the dedicated men

and women who serve as emergency management professionals. Like any group of professionals, they need an organization to provide mutual support, opportunities for professional growth, and a voice on vital issues of common interest. The KEMA is such an organization. This pamphlet is designed to give insight on the function of emergency management as well as the purpose and programs of KEMA.

As defined in KSA 48-904, "Emergency Management (EM) " means the preparation for and the carrying out of all emergency functions, other than functions for which military forces of other federal agencies are primarily responsible, to prevent, minimize and repair injury and damage resulting from disasters. In Kansas, that means coordinating all the activities of government (local, State, and Federal) as well as the private sector with respect to disasters/emergencies.

Every county (KSA 48-929) or inter-jurisdictional agency (KSA 48-930) is required to establish and maintain a disaster management agency, and appoint a county coordinator to head it. Local disaster agencies may be called Emergency Management or Emergency Preparedness, but the job is still the same.



Who is the KEMA?

The KEMA was formed in 1977 and is a network of leaders dedicated to providing excellence in emergency management and homeland security for Kansas. The KEMA is committed to promoting excellence through *professionalism*, fostering communication and cooperation through *teamwork*, soliciting input and active participation through *responsiveness*, and advocating for progressive growth through *leadership*.

Goals: To fulfill its mission the KEMA will strive:

- To advance the professional growth of members through the development, provision, and promotion of training and professional standards;
- To provide recognition for excellence in emergency management and homeland security;
- To provide opportunities for exchanging ideas and sharing lessons learned from emergency management and homeland security activities;
- To address planning and procedural issues critical to all levels of emergency management and homeland security;
- To serve as an advisory body to the Kansas Division of Emergency Management (KDEM) regarding emergency management and homeland security issues;
- To influence public policy on emergency management and homeland security through the legislative process at the federal, state and local levels; and,
- To coordinate the efforts and plans of this association with other organizations having common interest.

KEMA's Profile

The KEMA offers networking opportunities among local emergency managers and homeland security officials as well as opportunities to interact with state and national emergency management professionals and other affiliated individuals, governmental agencies, and interested private groups.

The KEMA is responsible for monitoring and reviewing past, current and future legislative actions that have the potential to impact emergency management activities and/or organizations. Our Kansas Association of Counties (KAC) representative voices our opinions to county representatives and acts as the liaison between the KAC and local emergency managers. The KEMA provides guidance to the International Association of Emergency Managers (IAEM) and the National Emergency Management Association (NEMA) through our annual "white paper" which becomes the legislative platform that is adopted at the annual conference to be utilized as the KEMA's legislative position. This "white paper" is the road map by which our KAC, IAEM and NEMA representatives know how to advance our cause at the local, state and federal levels.

KEMA's Members

All public officials, emergency management or related fields, and all personnel involved in all hazards emergency planning or emergency response are eligible for membership in the Association upon submission of proper application and payment of annual dues – as set forth in the bylaws. Examples of members include: emergency managers, county commissioners, city officials, law enforcement, fire, search and rescue, homeland security officials, and volunteer organizations such as the American Red Cross and Salvation Army.