

Kentucky Board of EMS – Spring Updates

Chris Lokits B.S., N.R.P., CP-C, TMP
Kentucky Board of EMS – Board Member
Medical Oversight Committee – Chair



Kentucky Board of Emergency Medical Services

KHDSP Task Force Spring 2025 Update

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What is KBEMS?

- Regulatory Board
- Statutory Authority
 - Emergency Medical Service Agencies
 - Emergency Medical Service Personnel
 - Emergency Medical Service Education



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What KBEMS is not...

- Advocacy/Association
- Operational/Management of Agency
 - Recruitment/Retention/Pay/Deployment
- Educational Institution
- Financial Control/Investor
- Medical Direction



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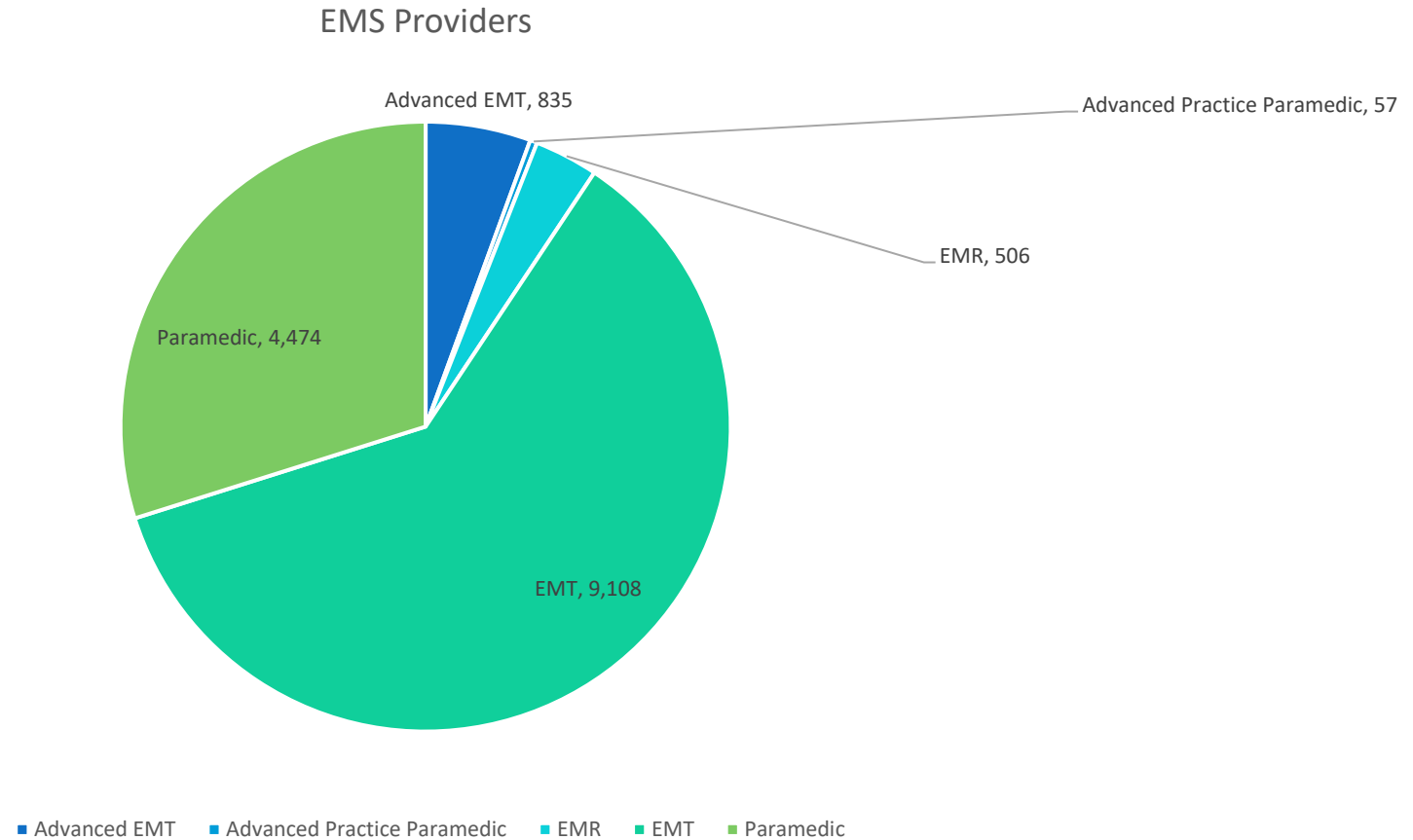
Agencies Across the Commonwealth

- 3rd Service Public Safety
- Fire Based
- Hospital Based
- Non-profit
- For-profit



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Current Provider Levels



Attrition Over the Years

Kentucky
EMS Provider Attrition



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Top Issues

- Workforce
 - Initial Education
 - Recruitment/Retention
 - Pay
 - Work/Life Balance
- Funding EMS
- Reimbursement



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PREVIOUS IMPROVEMENT INITIATIVES

- Decreased the initial requirements for EMS educators.
- Removed licensing fees for newly certified providers.
- Open reciprocity for providers moving from other states.
- Decreased the number of advanced providers required to maintain ALS coverage.



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PROVIDERS DECREASE WHILE NEEDS INCREASE

31,006

more requests for ambulance transport annually than five years previous.



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COST OF BUISNESS

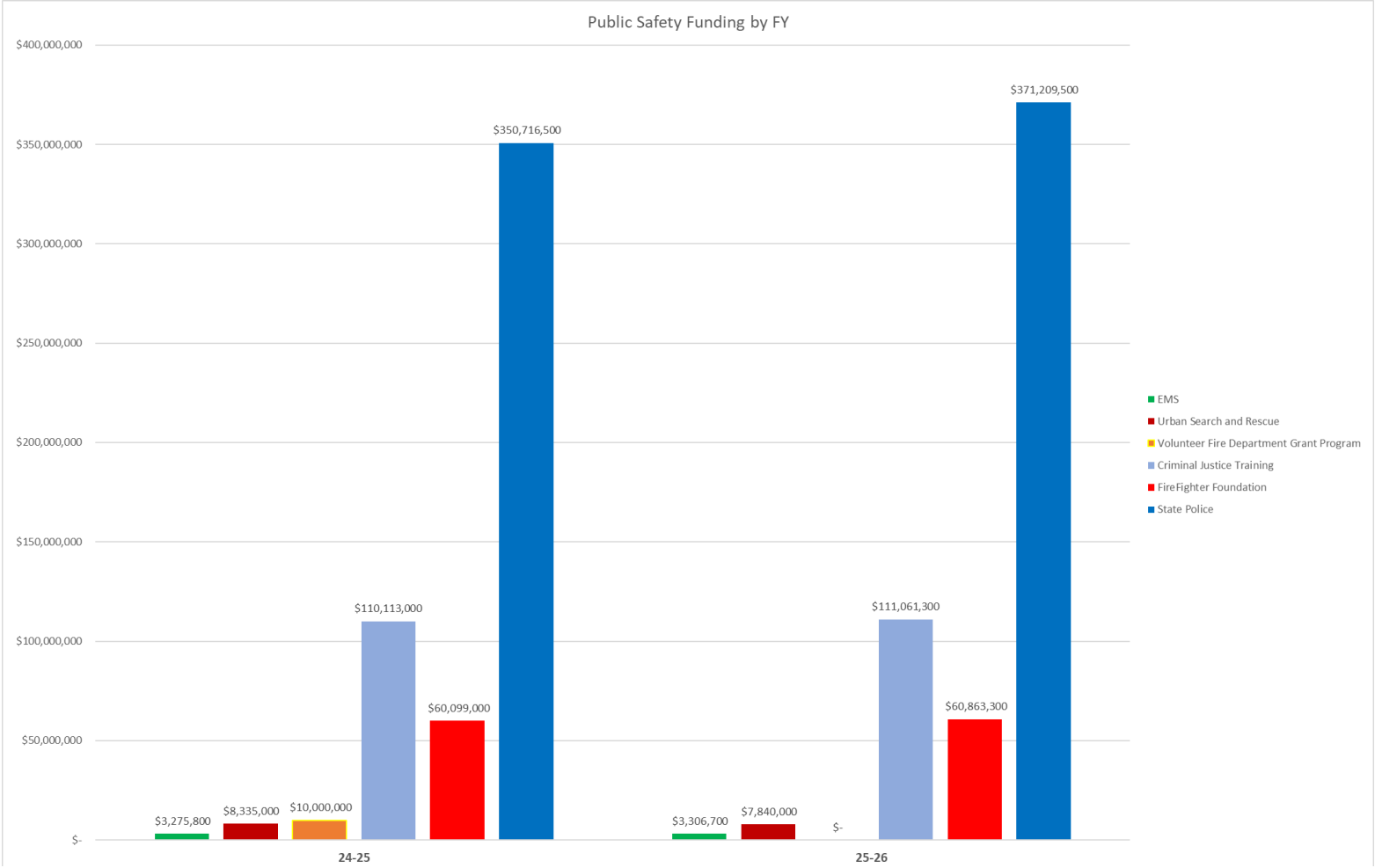
Average Cost for Response \$770
(2019 NEMSIS Data Set)

	Medicaid	Medicare
Basic Life Support	\$82.50 (-\$687.00)	\$365.67 (-\$404.33)
Advanced Life Support	\$110.00 (-\$660.00)	\$434.24 (-\$335.76)



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PUBLIC SAFETY FUNDING BY FISCAL YEAR



Work Force Development Work Group

- EMSKY.org – Coming Soon
 - Toolkit for EMS Directors
 - Career Pathways
 - Resource library
 - Event Calendar
 - Scholarship/Grant Guidance
- Kentucky EMS Playbook
 - Unify goals and strategies
- Statewide EMS recruitment video
- State Fair booth
- Future Mentorship Calls
- Pursue Future Funding – Education/Work Force Activities



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Statewide Hybrid Program

- 197 attended initial info session
- 171 applications received
- 129 interviewed
- 111 accepted
- 110 officially started
- 102 currently enrolled and in good academic standing
- 46 students funded via Healthcare Workforce Investment Fund (HWIF), with 4 more agencies applying
- Attrition (8 students) due to personal, financial, or health reasons—none due to academics
- High demand continues; financial constraints remain a top barrier



So what... I need the patient moved

- Communicate with your local EMS
- Call the next agency
- BLS vs. ALS
- BLS with an RN
- Air Transport
- Hospital Transport Agency
- Paramedic Education – Clinical Site, Sponsoring Institution



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Questions?

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