

Mississippi State Fire Academy

Annual Report

FISCAL YEAR 2023



#1 Fire Academy USA
Jackson, MS 39208

Kelly Elliott
Executive Director

Mississippi State Fire Academy Advisory Board

Kyle Hill- President
Mississippi Fire Chiefs Association

Chief John Pope - President
Mississippi Firefighters
Association

Chief Deputy Connie Dolan
State Fire Marshal's Office

Steven Crotwell - President
Mississippi Association of
Supervisors

Mayor Toby Barker - President
Mississippi Municipal League

Lee Harrell - CEO
State Rating Bureau



From Executive Director Kelly Elliott



It is with great pleasure to present to you our FY2023 Annual Report of the Mississippi State Fire Academy. As we continue to adapt to this ever-changing environment, this year, we stayed true to our commitment to excellence and our dedication to our state fire service.

Not uncommon to transitional education, our methods of course delivery require new and innovative ways that connect to students and provide an educational experience conducive to meeting the responsibilities of public safety, while maintaining consistency in standards of training. Utilizing technology through online course delivery and application of hybrid programs, MSFA continues to offer a firm development platform that ensures adequate standards of training throughout our state.

The Mississippi State Fire Academy remains committed to providing training and educational excellence that is certain to “make a difference when it matters the most.”



State Fire Academy Mission Statement

To serve the Mississippi Fire Service Community and the World by providing quality education and training in fundamental and advanced skills to save lives and property.

"Making A Difference When It Matters The Most!"

The State Fire Academy is committed and responsible for the training and education of personnel engaged in municipal, county, and industrial fire protection. This student body consists of career, volunteer, and industrial fire personnel. The Academy consists of 4 Bureaus: 1) Certification 2) Extension Services 3) Emergency Medical Services (EMS), 4) Special Operations/Industry and the Administration/Support Staff.

The Academy delivers quality training and instruction to the fire service/emergency response personnel of the State, while adhering to high ethical standards, promoting cooperation among staff with efficiency and integrity in their work while representing the Academy in a professional, courteous, and helpful manner at all times, and safeguarding the assets of the State. The Academy is committed to providing excellent service to its customers by providing training based on National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) standards as well as specialized courses not addressed by NFPA.

Statewide Goal and Benchmark

Public Safety and Order

To protect the public's safety-by providing training to first responders/emergency responders.

The training students receive from the Academy provides them the skills necessary to save lives and property, which will in turn, lower the insurance fire rating which determines the premium rates on business and homeowner's insurance.



Enabling Legislation

MS Code Annotated Section 45-11-7:

The State Fire Academy was created for the purpose of training and education of persons engaged in municipal, county, and industrial fire protection.

The Academy is officially designated as the agency of this state to conduct training for fire personnel on a statewide basis to all duly constituted fire departments.

MS Code Annotated Section 45-11-5:

Creation of a separate account known as the “State Fire Academy Fund” for the deposit of a tax of one-half of one percent (1/2 of 1%) of the gross premium receipts of fire insurance policies levied in the state.

Senate Bill 2362 of the 2016 Regular Legislative Session:

The above legislation changed the direction of the funding received by the Fire Academy to go to the state general fund effective July 1, 2016, in addition to diverting all cash in the account to the state general fund.

MS Code Annotated Section 45-11-7:

The Academy is designated as a division (sub-agency) of the Insurance Department.

MS Code Annotated Section 45-11-203:

Within one year of employment, all paid full-time firefighters shall be certified as completing the mandatory training requirements administered by the State Fire Academy.

MS Code Annotated Section 83-1-39:

Requires one member of the sheriff’s department to be the county fire investigator and to attend training at the State Fire Academy in arson investigation.

Organizational Chart

As of April 2024

**Mississippi Insurance
Department**
Commissioner Mike Chaney

MSFA Advisory Board
Mr. Kyle Hill
Chief John Pope
Chief Deputy Connie Dolan
Mr. Steven Crotwell
Mayor Toby Barker
Mr. Lee Harrell

Executive Director
Kelly Elliott

Chief of Strategic Operations
& Advancement; Matt Hinkle

Ron Reiss, Public Relations
William Searcy, Videography

Deputy Director; Support Services
Paul Ammerman

Deputy Director; Instructional Services
Barry Burnside

Administrative Services Director,
Kristi Johnson

Laura Mayo, Purchasing
Gladys Peterson, Admissions
Lynn Tyler,

Registrar/Minimum Standards Board
Shannon Torregano & Anna Maines,
Accounts Payable/Receivable

Facilities Maintenance
Director, Steve Hamblin

Housekeeping
Lavar Lanier

Othella Harvey
Kevin Pope
Robert Love

Michael Anderson
Paul Cowart
Paul Shoemaker
Scott Tennyson

Vehicle Maintenance,
Kenny Stamps

IT Director, Brian
McDade

Taj Nelson

Food Services Director,
Georgia Brown

Vikki Carrington
Sheneen Collins
Lakia Boyd

Human Resources
Director, Cindy
Stevenson

Leslie Elmore

Certification
Instructor
Chief, Marcus Collier

Chris Carrera
Josh Clark
Chad DiMartino
Shawn Sinclair
Durfie Burns
Will Cocke
Lane Putt
Dustin Turner
Xavier Jacobs
Rebecca
Cahoon, Admin

Extension Services
Instructor Chief, Shannon
Sandridge

Donny Collins
David Pitts
Matt Ellis
Luke Smith
William Tharp
Jarrod Ward

Special/Industry & EMS
Instructor Chief, Nick
Ragan

EMS
Rickey Lee
Charles Weathersby
Gary Huhn
Mandy DeLaughter, Admin

Special Operations
Ross Cook
Mark Moss
Adam Denson
Bill Trimble
Jason Watkins
Hayes Nix
Russell McCullar

Fund Balance Financial Statement July 1, 2022-June 30, 2023

State Appropriations House Bill 1594:	\$5,519,019
Capital Expense Funding:	\$1,362,500
Workforce Development Funding:	\$60,574

Grant Funding:

Sub Grant Funds-Passed through other State Agencies, and Federal Grant Funds-Direct	\$649,000
TOTAL Appropriations and Grant Funding:	\$7,591,093

Expenses:

Salaries, Wages, Fringe Benefits	\$4,256,441
Travel	42,517
Contractual Services	653,916
Commodities	792,818
Equipment Purchases	200,957
Vehicles	850,000
Resale Merchandise and Subsidies	<u>18,826</u>
TOTAL Expenses:	\$6,830,420



Fund Balance Financial Statement July 1, 2022-June 30, 2023

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The Commissioner of Insurance may establish and charge reasonable fees for the training programs and other services provided by the Academy.



Grant Information Fiscal Year 2023

Grant Funds Received: \$98,000

The Academy received grant funds directly from the Assistance to Firefighter Grants. This grant was utilized to purchase a breathing air compressor with two filling stations and a cascade system.

Grant Funds Received: \$425,000

The Academy received funding for the purchase of a new Fire Rescue Apparatus. Funding was received by the Assistance to Firefighters Grant Program.

Grant Funds Received: \$106,000

The Mississippi Emergency Management Agency awarded grant funds from the Hazardous Materials Emergency Preparedness, under the US Department of Transportation. This grant was utilized for the delivery of Hazardous Materials Technician I, Hazardous Materials Technician II, Hazardous Materials Awareness/Operations, and Fire Chemistry.

Grant Funds Received: \$20,000

The Academy received grant funds directly from the National Fire Academy State Fire Training Grant Program. This grant procures funding for courses approved by the U.S. Fire Administration's National Fire Academy to be administered on a statewide basis to fire service and emergency response personnel. Courses administered during FY 2023.

Certification Bureau

Mississippi Trainer Agility Test (MSTAT)

Firefighter 1001-I-II

Firefighter 1001-I-II: Field Course

Firefighter 1001-I-II: Hybrid

Fire Officer 1021-I-II

Fire Officer 1021-I-II: Online

Fire Officer 1021-II: Online

Fire Officer 1021-I-II: Field Course

Mississippi Executive Fire Officer Program

Fire Inspector 1031-I

Fire Inspector 1031-II

Fire Service Instructor 1041-I-II

Fire Service Instructor 1041-III

Fire Service Instructor 1041-I-II: Online

Fire Department Safety Officer 1521: Online

Fire Department Safety Officer 1521: Field Delivery

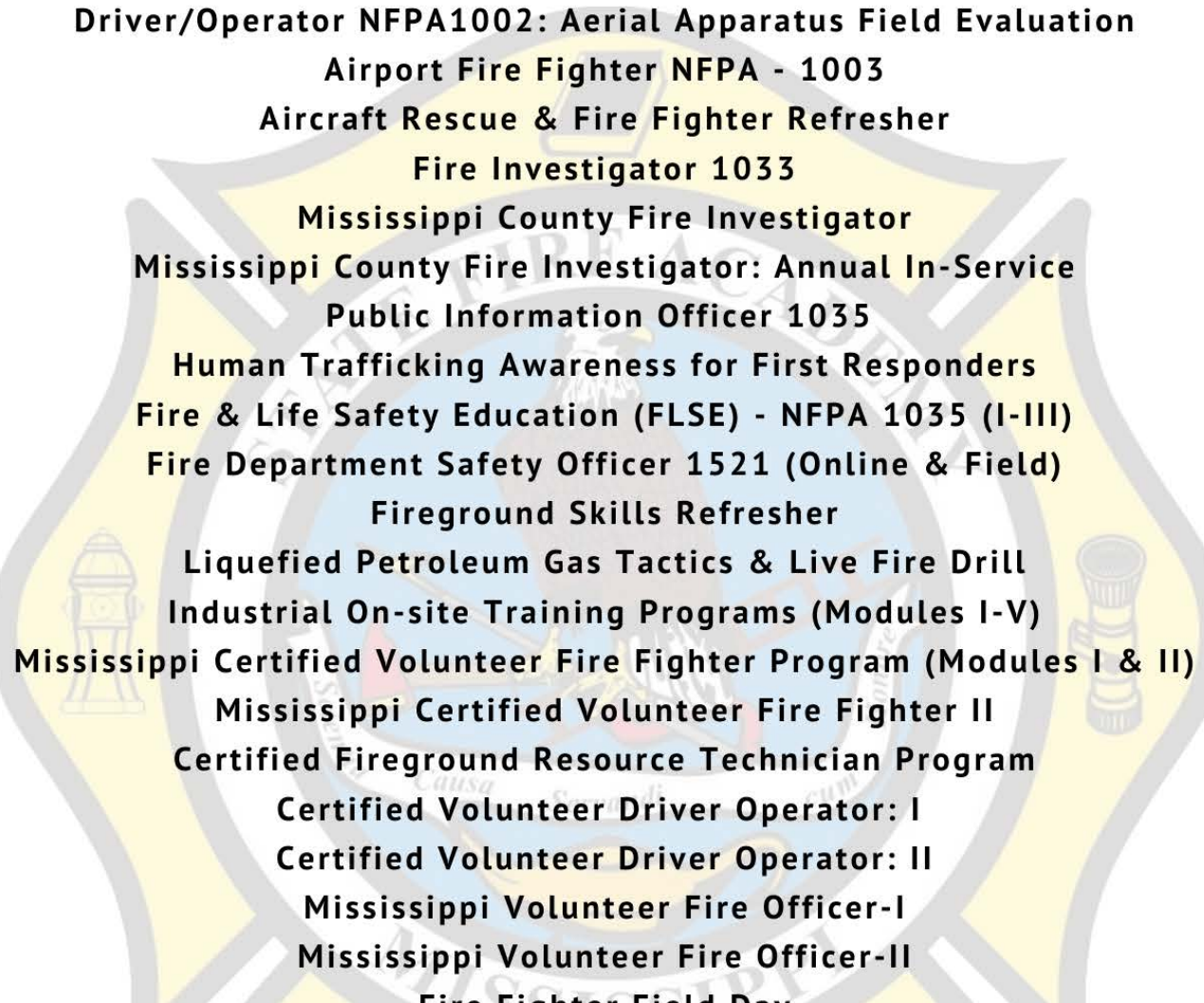
Fire Service Chaplain

How To Develop and Assist In Firefighter Physical Fitness Programs

Truck Company Operations

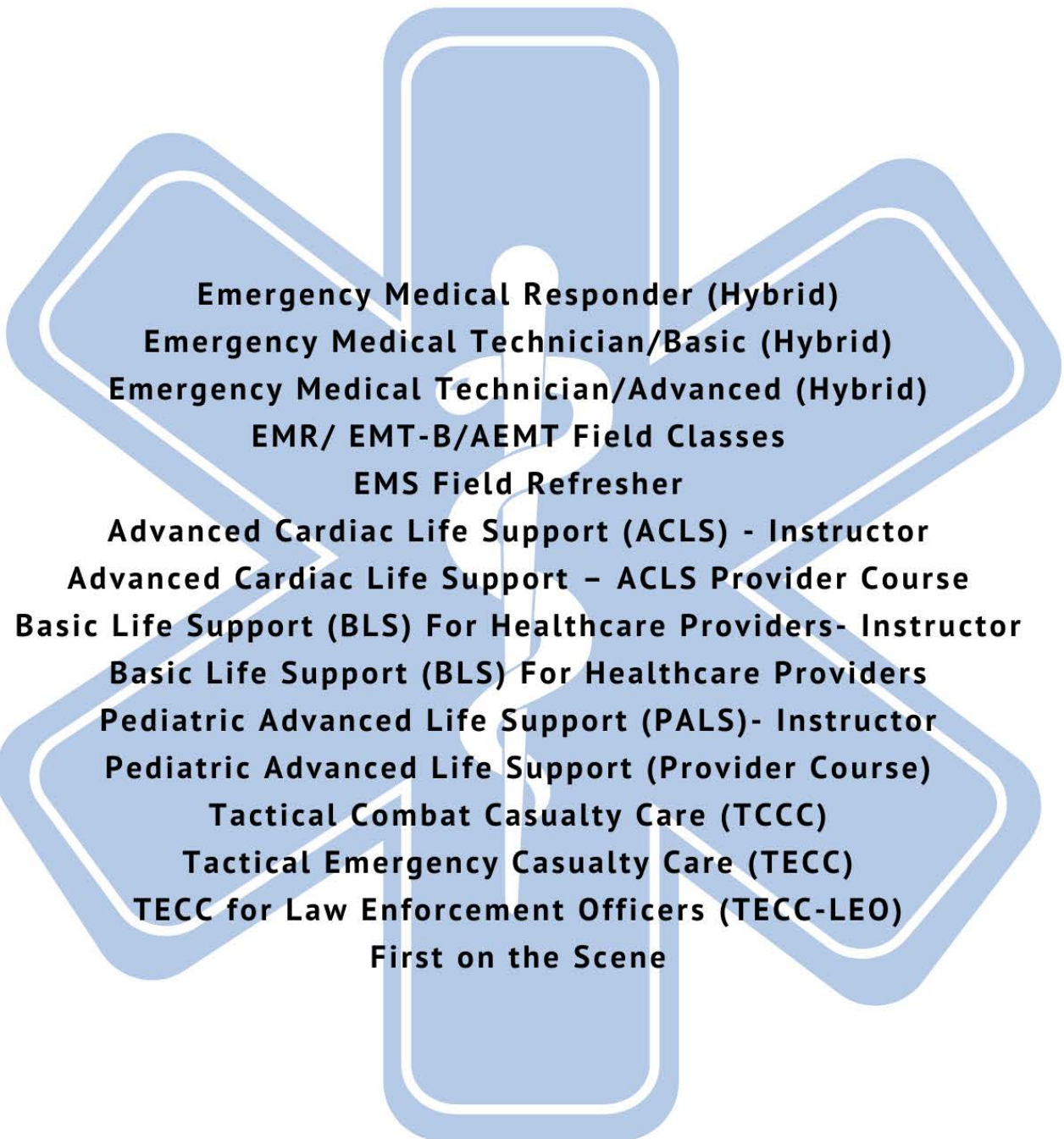
Engine Company Operations

Extension Services Bureau



Driver/Operator NFPA 1002: Pumper Apparatus
Driver/Operator NFPA 1002: Pumper Apparatus Field Evaluation
Driver/Operator NFPA1002: Aerial Apparatus Field Evaluation
Airport Fire Fighter NFPA - 1003
Aircraft Rescue & Fire Fighter Refresher
Fire Investigator 1033
Mississippi County Fire Investigator
Mississippi County Fire Investigator: Annual In-Service
Public Information Officer 1035
Human Trafficking Awareness for First Responders
Fire & Life Safety Education (FLSE) - NFPA 1035 (I-III)
Fire Department Safety Officer 1521 (Online & Field)
Fireground Skills Refresher
Liquefied Petroleum Gas Tactics & Live Fire Drill
Industrial On-site Training Programs (Modules I-V)
Mississippi Certified Volunteer Fire Fighter Program (Modules I & II)
Mississippi Certified Volunteer Fire Fighter II
Certified Fireground Resource Technician Program
Certified Volunteer Driver Operator: I
Certified Volunteer Driver Operator: II
Mississippi Volunteer Fire Officer-I
Mississippi Volunteer Fire Officer-II
Fire Fighter Field Day
Managing The Rural Emergency Incident
Passenger Bus Rescue & Incident Management
National Fire Academy Programs
Regional Training Courses
Fire Academy for Elected Officials
Mississippi Fire Chief Designation Program (MFCDD)
Mississippi Chief Fire Officer Designation Program (MCFOD)

EMS Bureau



Emergency Medical Responder (Hybrid)
Emergency Medical Technician/Basic (Hybrid)
Emergency Medical Technician/Advanced (Hybrid)
EMR/ EMT-B/AEMT Field Classes
EMS Field Refresher
Advanced Cardiac Life Support (ACLS) - Instructor
Advanced Cardiac Life Support – ACLS Provider Course
Basic Life Support (BLS) For Healthcare Providers- Instructor
Basic Life Support (BLS) For Healthcare Providers
Pediatric Advanced Life Support (PALS)- Instructor
Pediatric Advanced Life Support (Provider Course)
Tactical Combat Casualty Care (TCCC)
Tactical Emergency Casualty Care (TECC)
TECC for Law Enforcement Officers (TECC-LEO)
First on the Scene

Special Operations/ Industry Bureau



Fireground Leadership
Fire Service Management - 101
Smoke Diver
Rope Rescue Awareness & Operations (Rope Level I)
Rescue Technician (Rope Level II)
Rope Rescue Awareness & Operations-Field Delivery: Modules 1-4
Confined Space Rescue Technician
Confined Space Rescue Field Delivery: Modules 1-4
Trench Rescue Technician
Surface Water & Swiftwater Rescue Technician
Firefighter Intervention Rescue Survival Techniques (FIRST)
Certified Advanced Rescue Specialist (CARS)
Vehicle Extraction & Rescue Technician
Advanced Rope Rescue Workshop: Wilderness
Hazardous Materials Awareness and Operations: Online
Hazardous Materials Technician - I
Hazardous Materials Technician - II
Incident Management of Hazardous Materials
Hazardous Materials Technician Field Delivery
NFA Chemistry of Hazardous Materials: Fire Chem I
Industrial On-Site Training Programs (Modules 1-5)

Organizational Affiliations



The Mississippi State Fire Academy is affiliated with the following organizations:

- International Association of Fire Chiefs
- International Code Council
- International Fire Service Accreditation Congress (IFSAC)
- Mississippi Administrative Assistants Professional Association
- Mississippi Association of Governmental Purchasing and Property Agents
- Mississippi Association of Personnel Administrators
- Mississippi Association of Public Fire Safety Educators
- Mississippi Fire Chiefs Association
- Mississippi Fire Fighters Association
- Mississippi Fire Service Instructors Association
- National Association of Fire Investigators
- National Fire Protection Association



Adjunct Instructors

The Academy contracted with the following individuals for course deliveries during the fiscal year.

Joseph Abercrombie
Joshua Abercrombie
Clayton Denzil Aldridge
Keith Black
Justin Bouler
Gerald Briggs
Robert Paul Bush
Adam Cordell
Andrew Craft
Byran Cunningham
Joshua M. Davies
Tyler Davis
Dustin Ford
Juan Tony Garza
Justin Garza
Evan Gibens
Kevin Wayne Grantham
Elizabeth Paige Hardee
Michael Hogan
Patrick Homan
George Horn



Travis Inman
Antione King
David Lawrence
Tommy Malone
Ben Moore
Cody Moss
Harold Phillips
Jamie Phillips
Chad Ponder
William Reed
Marshall Robinson
Hunter Rybolt
Christopher D. Smith
Candice Talley
Michael Taylor
James William Thomas
Greg 'Spinner' Vaughn
Mark Whiteside
James Alvin Whitfield
Eumika Wiggins
Craig Woodard

Student Numbers

Calendar Year 2023

9,607

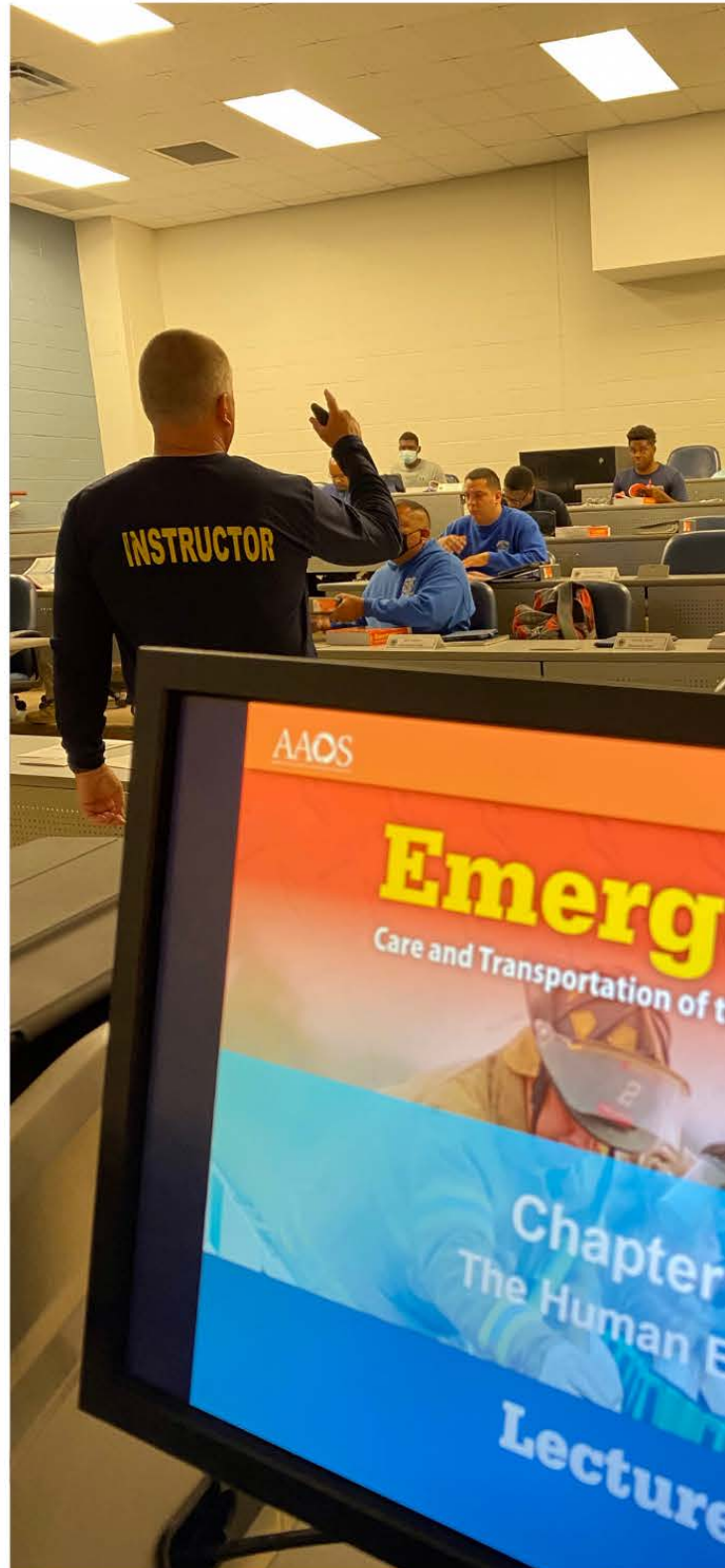
TOTAL STUDENTS
ENROLLED

581

TOTAL COURSES
DELIVERED

235,463

TOTAL STUDENT HOURS





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Kelly Elliott
Executive Director