

KANSAS AGRICULTURE EMERGENCY RESPONSE CORPS

Frequently Asked Questions

Can I volunteer at any disaster?

KAERC members may be activated in any agricultural incident if the KDA Incident Management Team deems it necessary. While they cannot self-deploy, members can contact the KAERC program manager to volunteer to assist in a response.

Will I get paid for participating?

When activated, it is the intention of the KDA to make members of the KAERC part-time temporary state employees. As such, members may be compensated.

What volunteer skills are needed?

This volunteer team corps will include professionals with a diverse scope of skill sets, from communications and psychology to epidemiology and risk analysis. There are many important roles to fill on the agricultural emergency response team.

Is there an age requirement?

Because of the nature of the KAERC's role in an agricultural emergency, members must be 18 years of age or older.

What are the benefits to joining?

KAERC members receive valuable emergency preparedness training which may also be eligible for continuing education credit in some cases.

Where can I get more information?

Individuals are encouraged to contact David Hogg, KAERC Program Manager: david.hogg@ks.gov or 785-564-7468.



The Kansas Agricultural Emergency Response Corps (KAERC) will be composed of volunteers who will be trained and prepared to respond rapidly and efficiently to an agricultural emergency. During a large-scale incident, the limited state and federal staff cannot fill all necessary roles; therefore, the Kansas Department of Agriculture is looking to utilize the community and their wide range of skills. This includes volunteers and agencies from many different backgrounds, possessing a wide range of proficiencies. KAERC volunteers will work alongside the KDA in response and recovery situations.

KAERC volunteers will gain valuable emergency preparedness knowledge, skills and experience, giving them the tools to not only aid the state, but their communities and families. Volunteers will have the opportunity to help provide education and awareness on emergency preparedness to the public, participate in KDA trainings and exercises, as well as to serve as an advocate for the program.



For more information about KAERC, visit:
agriculture.ks.gov/KAERC

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Seeking volunteers to fill the following positions:

- Appraiser
- Cleanup & Disinfection Specialist
- Communications Specialist
- Case Management Specialist
- Community Liaison
- Data Entry & Record Management Specialist
- Disease Surveillance & Reporting Specialist
- Epidemiologist
- Finance & Accounting Specialist
- Information Technology Specialist
- Mapping (GIS) Specialist
- Physical Laborer
- Public Educator
- Psychologist or Behavioral Health Specialist
- Resource Allocation Specialist
- Risk Analyst
- Laboratory Technician
- Slaughter & Culling Specialist
- Traffic Control & Security Officer
- Training Officer
- Transportation Specialist
- Volunteer Management Specialist
- Warehouse Management Specialist

Application Process

Step 1 – Fill out and submit the KAERC application form. This can be found on the website at agriculture.ks.gov/KAERC.

Step 2 – Read, sign, and submit the Volunteer Memorandum of Understanding and Code of Conduct forms.

Step 3 – Since it is the intention of the KDA to make KAERC members part-time, temporary employees during an actual incident activation, there will be one final set of papers to fill out. These forms are the same that any part-time employee would complete for KDA. Please note, however, that submitting these forms does not make you an employee of KDA.

Step 4 – Submit a photo that will be added to an official KAERC ID Badge.



Volunteer Training

All KAERC volunteers, regardless of their position, are required to complete five core training courses. These courses serve as an introduction to the KAERC program and form a foundation for the emergency response framework. Certain positions in the KAERC will require additional training courses. In depth training information can be found on the KAERC website.

www.agriculture.ks.gov/KAERC