



## **Region: 1 RTAC EDUCATIONAL NEEDS ASSESSMENT SUMMARY**

Coordinator Name: Scott Stephens

### **Demographics**

- Total Number of Responses: 111
- Responder Certification Levels:
  - EMTs: 17
  - EMT-Is or AEMTs: 32
  - Paramedics: 38
  - Other :1
- Average Years of Experience:
  - 0-2 years: 14
  - 3-5 years: 12
  - 6-10 years: 12
  - 10-15 years: 1
  - 11-15 years: 9
  - 16-20 years: 13
  - More than 20 years: 28
- Total Number of EMS Agencies Represented in Leadership: 15
- Total Number of Hospitals Represented: 7

### **Top 5 Findings from the Educational Needs Assessment**

1. Access to proper Equipment to provide realistic SIMS Training
2. Burn Education – also supported by QA&QI project
3. Pediatric Hands on Trauma Skills Labs
4. Airway , Needle Decompression Hands on Skills
5. DART Training

### **Recommendations for Educational or Programmatic Interventions**

1. Purchase Trailer and Equipment to include SIMS to have available for use in Region
2. Provide 6-8 4hr Burn treatment in-services within the Region
3. Provide 2-4 8hr Pediatric hands on Trauma SIMS days
4. Provide DART Train the Trainer Course
5. Provide DART course for the Region

### **What needs are already being addressed by the RTAC.**

1. 2 Burn Classes in process of scheduling
2. 1 Pediatric SIMS Day in Process of scheduling



## Funding Request Overview

Total Grant Amount Requested: **\$30,000**

### Individual Projects for FY2026

- Project or Category #1: **Equipment Trailer**
  - Amount Requested: 21,500
  - Planned Use of Funds:
    - Item/Service: Trailer 6x12 | Cost: \$ 5,266
    - Item/Service: SIMS Equipment Cost: \$ 16,234
- Project or Category #2: **Peds Trauma SIMS Training Days**
  - Amount Requested: \$3,250 \_\_\_\_\_
  - Planned Use of Funds: 2 classes 10 Stations/instructors 150ea
    - Item/Service: Instructor Cost: \$3,000
    - Item/Service: Learning Materials for Class Cost: \$250
- Project #3: **Burn Education**
  - Amount Requested: \$ 2,750
  - Planned Use of Funds:
    - Item/Service: Instructors (2) for 8 classes | . Cost: \$2,400
    - Item/Service: Learning Materials for Class Cost: \$ 350
- Project #4: **DART Train the Trainer**
  - Amount Requested: \$1250
  - Planned Use of Funds:
    - Item/Service: Instructors (7) 150.00 Cost: \$1050.00
    - Item/Service: Learning Materials for Class \$ 200.00
- Project #5: **DART Class for Region Services**
  - Amount Requested: \$1250
  - Planned Use of Funds:
    - Item/Service: Instructors (7) 150.00 Cost: \$1050.00
    - Item/Service: Learning Materials for Class \$ 200.00

I am writing on behalf of the Region 1 RTAC to request funding support for critical training initiatives that will enhance emergency medical response capabilities across our region and state. Our goal is to strengthen the education and preparedness of EMS professionals through advanced simulation training, pediatric hands-on skills development, burn education, and statewide disaster response readiness from Region 1 Services.

The funding we seek will specifically support:



1. Simulation Equipment Trailer – A mobile training unit equipped with high-fidelity simulators to provide real-world EMS training scenarios in various locations across the Region.
2. Pediatric Hands-On Skills Training – Focused skill development for EMS providers to improve prehospital pediatric trauma care, addressing critical gaps in treatment and intervention.
3. Burn Education – Specialized training to enhance EMS response to burn injuries, ensuring providers are equipped with the latest protocols and treatment techniques.
4. Disaster Assistance Response Team (DART) – A well-trained team capable of deploying statewide to assist in mass casualty incidents, natural disasters, and other large-scale emergencies.

Investing in these initiatives will improve patient outcomes, ensure a more prepared EMS workforce, and enhance statewide emergency response capabilities. We are committed to delivering high-quality, accessible training, and with your support, we can expand these efforts to reach more EMS professionals across multiple Regions.

We appreciate the EMS Trauma Subcommittee's commitment to advancing emergency medical care and respectfully request your consideration for funding support. We would welcome the opportunity to discuss this proposal further and explore ways to collaborate in strengthening our EMS system.

Region 1 and the NW Georgia EMS Systems inc. 501c through the years has proven to be a good steward of previous monies received from the Georgia Trauma Commission for Training and Equipment. Our board of directors is willing to continue that work and put these monies to the continued training of our regional and state partners.

Thank you  
Scott Stephens  
Regional Trauma Advisory Coordinator  
Region 1  
770-891-4413



## **Region 2 RTAC EDUCATIONAL NEEDS ASSESSMENT SUMMARY**

Coordinator Name: Kyle Gibson

### **Demographics**

- Total Number of Responses: 58
- Responder Certification Levels:
  - EMTs: 4
  - EMT-Is or AEMTs: 21
  - Paramedics: 30
  - Other : 3
- Average Years of Experience:
  - 0-2 years: 5
  - 3-5 years: 6
  - 6-10 years: 6
  - 10-15 years: 2
  - 11-15 years: 4
  - 16-20 years: 11
  - More than 20 years: 24
- Total Number of EMS Agencies Represented in Leadership: 17
- Total Number of Hospitals Represented: 6

### **Top 5 Findings from the Educational Needs Assessment**

1. Employer-Provided Training: 41 out of 58 respondents reported that their employer provides educational opportunities, but 14 said “always,” and 12 said “sometimes.” 11 Respondents reported no employer-provided training.
2. Access to Simulation Training: Most respondents reported limited or no access to simulation training. However, most respondents reported simulation as “extremely” or “very helpful.”
3. Confidence in Trauma Skills: The majority (36) reported only moderate to low confidence levels.
4. MCI Confidence: 25 Respondents showed somewhat or no confidence in the MCI response.
5. Education Skill Requests: Advanced Airway, Blood Administration, Needle Decompression Pediatric Skills

### **Recommendations for Educational or Programmatic Interventions**

1. Increase Employer Supported Training Opportunities: Advocate continued partnerships with NGHS trauma services to sponsor continuing education events.



2. Expand Access to Simulation Training: Continue to support access to the mobile simulation truck to reduce barriers. This will also address geographic barriers to training, such as distance.
3. Strengthen Trauma Skills Education: Offering targeted trauma courses using the cadaver labs, hands-on workshops, and case study presentations.

What needs are already being addressed by the RTAC?

1. Northeast Georgia Trauma Symposium is in its 10<sup>th</sup> year
2. The cadaver skills lab, one of the most well-attended in the state, is hosted the day before the trauma symposium.
3. Intermittent trauma services lectures at EMS headquarters.

### Funding Request Overview

Total Grant Amount Requested: **\$ 40,000**

### Individual Projects for FY2026

- Project or Category #1: **Northeast Georgia Trauma Symposium**
  - Amount Requested: \$ 25, 000
  - Planned Use of Funds: Support of key components to reduce registration cost
    - Item/Service: AV/Technology | Cost: \$ 20,000
    - Item/Service: Food | Cost: \$ 5,000
- Project or Category #2: **Pediatric Skills Labs**
  - Amount Requested: \$ 7,500
  - Planned Use of Funds: Covers any rental cost, instructor compensation, and equipment needed to assist in pediatric readiness.
    - Item/Service: Space Rental | Cost: \$ 2,500
    - Item/Service: Instructor Compensation | Cost: \$ 2,000
    - Item/Service: Equipment/Trainers | \$3,000
- Project or Category #3: **MCI Training (ALERTT)**
  - Amount Requested: \$ 7,500
  - Planned Use of Funds: Assist in educating the MCI/ALERTT program in Region-2. Funds would cover instructional materials and food.
    - Item/Service: Instructional materials | Cost: \$ 6,000
    - Item/Service: Food | Cost: \$ 1500

How will this funding support the entire region and address specific needs?

By supporting the Northeast Georgia Trauma Symposium, the funding can expand the reach of educational opportunities available to employees, especially through subsidized costs and a



broader attendance. The funding allocated for programs like the Northeast Georgia Trauma Symposium will help lower the registration costs for participants. This reduction in financial burden could encourage more departments to support their employees to attend. The symposium will provide high-quality, relevant educational content. Departments who see the value in these programs—through improved employee confidence, skillsets, and job performance—are more likely to see the return on investment. If employees come back from such events with improved skills, it directly benefits the department by enhancing overall performance and reducing errors in critical situations, such as trauma care, pediatric care or MCI response.

Pediatric emergencies require different care approaches than those for adults, due to differences in anatomy, physiology, and psychological needs. A pediatric skills lab will give healthcare providers in the region the opportunity to practice life-saving skills, such as pediatric airway management, CPR, and trauma care, in a controlled, hands-on environment. This hands-on experience is invaluable for building confidence and competence in handling pediatric patients, which can be especially critical in high-stress situations. Rural or geographically isolated departments or healthcare facilities often face challenges in providing specialized training due to lack of resources or logistical barriers. A pediatric skills lab addresses this issue by offering a centralized training opportunity that is open to healthcare providers from all parts of the region. By supporting these programs, funding can help ensure that healthcare workers from underserved areas—who might not otherwise have access to advanced pediatric training—receive the same high-quality education as those in larger, research-rich areas.

Whether in an urban or rural area, it is critical that responders across the region have the same knowledge base when dealing with MCIs. Funding for MCI training ensures that healthcare providers, EMS teams, fire departments, and law enforcement across the region receive the same level of high-quality, consistent training. This standardization ensures that no matter where a disaster occurs, responders will have a uniform approach to handling the situation, improving regional consistency in emergency responses.

These initiatives are vital investments in the region's healthcare infrastructure. They will improve regional preparedness, ensure equitable access to high-quality training, and reduce disparities in emergency care. By supporting the Northeast Georgia Trauma Symposium, a pediatric skills lab, and MCI Training, you will strengthen the entire region's ability to respond to medical crises, save lives, and create a more coordinated, effective emergency response network. The requested funding will directly support better-trained professionals, enhanced collaboration, and improved outcomes for patients across the region.

Do you have a regional organization to manage the funding? Yes, we utilize the North Georgia Community Foundation, and have had our RTAC funds with this organization for years.



## **Region 3 RTAC EDUCATIONAL NEEDS ASSESSMENT SUMMARY**

Coordinator Name: Danielle Johnson

### **Demographics**

- Total Number of Responses: 433
- Responder Certification Levels:
  - EMTs: 113
  - EMT-Is or AEMTs: 168
  - Paramedics: 109
  - Other : 7 (EMR-6, Blank-1)
- Average Years of Experience:
  - 0-2 years: 78
  - 3-5 years: 51
  - 6-10 years: 72
  - 10-15 years: 5
  - 11-15 years: 31
  - 16-20 years: 56
  - More than 20 years: 105
- Total Number of EMS Agencies Represented in Leadership: Left anonymous, but 9 counties were represented (3 outside of Region 3)
- Total Number of Hospitals Represented: 7

### **Top 5 Findings from the Educational Needs Assessment**

1. 63% of respondents reported they were unaware that GEMSA provided trauma CE
2. 73% favor in-house trainings (25% listed that as their only preferred learning method), followed by workshops and hand-on trainings
3. PHTLS, TECC/TCCC, and Trauma Skill/Cadaver Labs were the most requested established trauma courses
4. Time constraints, financial limitations, and burnout are the top reported barriers to continuing education
5. Data highlighted the need for additional training in mass-casualty incidents (MCI) response, trauma resuscitation/skills, burn care, and pediatric trauma

### **Recommendations for Educational or Programmatic Interventions**

1. Improve Access to Training
  - Keep training locations in-house or within 20 miles for most providers in an effort to increase participation





- Enhance the advertisements and better promote GEMSA-sponsored trauma CE courses to improve provider awareness and engagement
- 2. Prioritize High-Demand Courses
  - Expand PHTLS, TECC/TCCC, and Cadaver Lab opportunities within Region 3.
  - The volume of EMS providers in our region should be considered when determining the size and availability of courses to effectively meet their training needs.
- 3. Expand Hands-On and In-Person Trainings
  - Focus on Trauma Resuscitation, Mass-Casualty Incident Response, Pediatric Trauma Care, Burn Care
  - Increase workshops and in-house training sessions
  - Encourage EMS agencies to partner with trauma and burn centers to provide inhouse and/or hands-on trainings
  - Implement workshops that focus on burn care, pediatric trauma simulations, and hands-on trauma skills to be delivered around the region

#### What needs are already being addressed by the RTAC?

1. The next quarterly meeting has been converted to an in-person MCI table-top exercise to provide an opportunity to identify region needs and provide training
2. A workgroup that will incorporate our regions' pediatric, burn, and trauma centers is being formed in order to create a quarterly in-person, hands-on training workshop for EMS providers to rotate through burn education, pediatric simulations, and trauma resuscitation skill stations. Offerings will rotate around the region to decrease travel times and increase access to trainings.

#### Funding Request Overview

Total Grant Amount Requested: **\$ 30,000**

#### Individual Projects for FY2026

- Project or Category #1: **Quarterly Skills Workshops**
  - Amount Requested: \$ 20, 000/\$5,000 per quarterly training
  - Planned Use of Funds:
    - Item/Service: Venue – goal is to book for free, but, if necessary, funds to secure a space large enough to provide the trainings (price varies)
    - Item/Service: Catering – estimate \$1500 for attendees & educators





- Item/Service: Equipment – goal is to partner with centers and agencies that will provide their equipment for the trainings. Would like to offer replacements of depleted or overused items if necessary.
  - Item/Service: Supplies – printed materials, office supplies, signage
- Project or Category #2: **Regional Support for Established Conferences/Courses**
  - Amount Requested: \$ 10,000
  - Planned Use of Funds: RTAC to support region 3's conferences that provide EMS Trauma CE through vendor support or if preferred, attendee support to send regional members for free. Examples include the Metro Atlanta EMS Conference, Trauma Symposiums provided by Trauma Centers and ABLS Courses from our Burn Centers
    - Item/Service: Vendor/Attendee Sponsorships Cost: \$ 10,000

How will this funding support the entire region and address specific needs?

Our workshops will feature the top three trauma skills and education topics most requested by our EMS providers, delivered by regional content experts. With financial support, we can secure larger venues to accommodate more attendees, addressing the needs of our region, which has the highest number of pre-hospital providers in the state. Our region is not that large geographically, so we plan to rotate locations across four quadrants, ensuring each county falls within the preferred 20-mile radius for in-person trainings. Additionally, our EMS agencies and trauma/burn centers already offer excellent training opportunities annually. We can either provide direct support to these events or offer sponsorships for EMS providers from our region to attend at no cost.

Do you have a regional organization to manage the funding? No



## **Region 4- RTAC EDUCATIONAL NEEDS ASSESSMENT SUMMARY**

Coordinator Name: Jay Connelly

### Demographics

- Total Number of Responses: 75
- Responder Certification Levels:
  - EMTs: 17
  - EMT-Is or AEMTs: 10
  - Paramedics: 30
  - Other :
- Average Years of Experience:
  - 0-2 years: 5
  - 3-5 years: 6
  - 6-10 years: 6
  - 11-15 years: 1
  - 16-20 years: 9
  - More than 20 years: 24
- Total Number of EMS Agencies Represented in Leadership: 8
- Total Number of Hospitals Represented: 4

### Top 5 Findings from the Educational Needs Assessment

1. Pediatric Education
2. Advanced Airway Management
3. Burn Education
4. Pre-Hospital Blood Products
5. Portal for education offerings

### Recommendations for Educational or Programmatic Interventions

1. Serve as an adjunct to the local programs
2. Develop better ways to share opportunities for education
3. RTTDC

What needs are already being addressed by the RTAC.

1. Plans to make trauma symposium annual event to address needs
2. Facebook page created to share educational offerings
3. Increased expectation for participation by pre-hospital



## Funding Request Overview

Total Grant Amount Requested: **\$2,150**

### Individual Projects for FY2026

- Project or Category #1: **Sponsor Annual Trauma Symposium**
  - Amount Requested: \$2,000
- Project or Category #2: **Creation of an education list serve**
  - Amount Requested: \$150

How will this funding support the entire region and address specific needs?

Symposium involved topics related to each of the needs identified in the assessment. Serves as an excellent portal to educate providers in trauma care.

Do you have a regional organization to manage the funding?

No formal organization identified yet.



## **Region 5: RTAC EDUCATIONAL NEEDS ASSESSMENT SUMMARY**

Coordinator Name: N/A

### **Demographics**

- Total Number of Responses: 100 (149 in Feb 2024)\*
- Responder Certification Levels:
  - EMTs: 27
  - EMT-Is or AEMTs: 16
  - Paramedics: 35
  - Other: 9
- Average Years of Experience:
  - 0-2 years: 15
  - 3-5 years: 15
  - 6-10 years: 14
  - 10-15 years: 15
  - 16-20 years: 4
  - More than 20 years: 21
- Total Number of EMS Agencies Represented in Leadership: 10 (20 in Feb 2024)
- Total Number of Hospitals Represented: 5 (16 in Feb 2024)

### **Top 5 Findings from the Educational Needs Assessment**

1. Increased Access to Training Equipment & Modular CE – Strong interest in shorter, modular, in-person CE and improved access to training equipment.
2. Expanded Trauma Skills Training – High demand for training in airway management, chest decompression, tourniquets, blood administration, ventilator management, chest tubes (interfacility transfers), pelvic binders, and related trauma skills.
3. Enhanced Pediatric Trauma Education – Request for more pediatric-specific training.
4. MCI & ASHE Response Training – Need for training in surge capacity, tactical triage, and coordinated response.
5. Burn & Blast Injury Education – Strong interest in burn and blast injury

### **Recommendations for Educational or Programmatic Interventions**

1. Strengthen Agency-Based Educator Training & Collaboration – Expand training, resources, and CE for agency and initial education providers. Enhance collaboration among EMS agencies, educational institutions, and regional trauma centers to standardize instruction. Establish a Regional Trauma Resuscitation Academy to align education with evidence-based practices. Increase SME engagement from regional

\* This needs-based assessment and funding request is informed by FY24 and FY25 regional survey results.



trauma centers to reinforce best practices and support regional performance improvement initiatives.

2. Optimize Regional Training Resources – Enhance, expand, and maintain training caches, including simulation equipment, to support regional agencies and educators. Ensure availability, upkeep, and alignment with best practices.
3. Sustain and Expand Regional Initiatives – Continue to support and existing RTAC-led performance improvement and educational initiatives to strengthen regional trauma system preparedness.

What needs are already being addressed by the RTAC.

1. Pediatric Trauma Education Enhancement – The Central Georgia Region 5 EMS Pediatric Trauma Symposium and Pediatric Simulation Day serve as a cornerstone for regional pediatric trauma education. These events deliver critical training on pediatric injury prevention and optimal trauma care. Additionally, a Georgia Trauma Foundation Grant award is enhancing pediatric trauma education by providing specialized training equipment, simulation resources, and instructional support for agency-based educators. These initiatives, combined with ongoing collaboration through Central Georgia EMS for Children, ensure that regional prehospital providers receive the up-to-date, evidence-based pediatric trauma training.
2. Mass Casualty Incident (MCI) & ASHE Response Training – The R5 RTAC and Education and Outreach Teams collaborate with Healthcare Coalition partners to strengthen surge readiness training across the region. The RTAC continues to enhance regional MCI preparedness through virtual, tabletop, and functional exercises within the MCI Multiverse. Additionally, a Georgia Trauma Foundation Grant will support the expansion of the MCI Multiverse, enabling broader access to tabletop exercises and train-the-trainer opportunities beyond EMS Region 5.
3. Leveraging Regional Resources to Support Department-Based Educators – The RTAC utilizes regional expertise, a training library, an equipment cache, and trauma training modules to empower department-based educators. By providing accessible, high-quality trauma training resources, the RTAC enhances training convenience, standardization, and effectiveness, ensuring EMS agencies have the tools needed to improve trauma care delivery.

### Funding Request Overview

Total Grant Amount Requested: **\$ 30,000**

Individual Projects for FY2026

\* This needs-based assessment and funding request is informed by FY24 and FY25 regional survey results.



- **Project or Category #1: Multiuse Trailer for Regional Cache Equipment**
  - Amount Requested: \$10,000
  - Planned Use of Funds:
    - Item/Service: 6x12 or 7x12 Cargo Trailer | Cost: \$10,000
- **Project or Category #2: Regional Cache Equipment**
  - Amount Requested: \$10,000
  - Planned Use of Funds:
    - Item/Service: Airway Manikins & Supplies | Cost: \$2,000
    - Item/Service: Chest Decompression Trainers & Supplies | Cost: \$8,000.00
- **Project or Category #3: Regional Trauma Resuscitation Academies**
  - Amount Requested: \$10,000
  - Planned Use of Funds:
    - Item/Service: Trauma Resuscitation Academies | Cost: \$10,000.00

How will this funding support the entire region and address specific needs?

This funding will enhance trauma education, regional readiness, and EMS provider competency across Region 5 by expanding training accessibility, standardization, and resource availability. Each initiative directly addresses gaps identified in the RTAC Educational Needs Assessment, supporting regional educators, EMS agencies, and trauma system partners in delivering high-quality, evidence-based trauma care.

Multiuse Trailer for Regional Cache Equipment – Funding will replace an existing 5x8 Trauma Readiness trailer with a larger, multiuse trailer to improve the mobility, logistics, and accessibility of regional training assets. When not in use for training, the trailer will house regional readiness equipment, ensuring the efficient transport of simulation tools, airway trainers, and trauma modules to support agency-based training and hands-on education across multiple locations.

Regional Cache Equipment – Investments in airway manikins, chest decompression trainers, and trauma simulation tools will provide consistent, high-quality training opportunities for EMS providers. These resources will enable agencies to conduct in-house training aligned with current trauma care standards, addressing the need for modular and scenario-based CE offerings identified in the needs assessment.

*Note:* The task trainers selected reflect regional training priorities based on provider requests, with additional trainers purchased as funding allows to expand educational opportunities.

\* This needs-based assessment and funding request is informed by FY24 and FY25 regional survey results.



Regional Trauma Resuscitation Academies – Funding will establish quarterly Trauma Resuscitation Academy offerings, each lasting 4–8 hours, to provide regional educators with standardized, evidence-based trauma resuscitation training. These academies will ensure consistency in trauma education across EMS agencies, support regional performance improvement initiatives, and challenge instructors to integrate newly acquired knowledge into agency in-service training and practice guidelines, driving long-term improvements in trauma care delivery.

By strategically investing in training infrastructure, equipment, and instructor development, this funding will support all EMS providers and educators in Region 5, ensuring broader access to trauma education, improved clinical readiness, and enhanced regional trauma system preparedness.

Do you have a regional organization to manage the funding? Yes

\* This needs-based assessment and funding request is informed by FY24 and FY25 regional survey results.





## **Region 7- RTAC EDUCATIONAL NEEDS ASSESSMENT SUMMARY**

**RTAC Region: 7**

**Coordinator Name: Brian Dorriety**

### **Demographics**

- **Total Number of Responses:** 107
- **Responder Certification Levels:**
  - EMTs: 24
  - EMT-Is or AEMTs: 41
  - Paramedics: 38
  - Other: 4
- **Average Years of Experience:**
  - 0-2 years: 25
  - 3-5 years: 16
  - 6-10 years: 14
  - 10-15 years: 11
  - 11-15 years: 11
  - 16-20 years: 12
  - More than 20 years: 18
- **Total Number of EMS Agencies Represented in Leadership:** 5
- **Total Number of Hospitals Represented:** 1

### **Top 5 Findings from the Educational Needs Assessment**

1. Top educational Options preferred
2. Skills and Training Needed
3. Barriers and challenges for training
4. Favorite GEMSA Classes
5. There is a lack of communication from EMS agency Directors

### **Recommendations for Educational or Programmatic Interventions**

**1. Improve Communication Channels:** Establish regular communication platforms (newsletters, email updates, and dedicated portals) to inform EMS personnel about training opportunities and professional development. Encourage EMS agencies to set up clear lines of communication with their teams, ensuring that all staff members are aware of available programs and resources.

**2. Expand Access to Training Programs:** Invest in virtual training platforms to allow EMS professionals to access courses remotely, especially for those in rural or underserved areas. Consider subsidizing training costs through grants or funding from state or federal agencies to reduce the financial burden on individuals or EMS agencies.



**3. Offer More Specialized Training:** Develop more advanced training programs focused on emerging technologies, specialized medical procedures, and leadership in emergency medical services. Offer more opportunities for cross-disciplinary training to better equip EMS personnel with skills they need to collaborate with other first responders and healthcare professionals.

**4. Increase Flexibility in Training Schedules:** Offer self-paced learning modules or recorded sessions for EMS professionals who work irregular hours or are unable to attend scheduled in-person sessions. Create flexible training schedules that accommodate shift work, providing more opportunities for EMS staff to participate in ongoing education.

**5. Foster a Collaborative Learning Environment:** Promote peer-led workshops and mentorship programs to encourage knowledge sharing and collaboration among EMS professionals. Create a community of practice where EMS personnel can share their experiences, discuss challenges, and learn from one another in an informal yet structured environment.

**What needs are already being addressed by the RTAC.**

1. Advanced airway management, needle decompression, and other advanced skills are offered annually via the Trauma Skills Lab.
2. Trauma resuscitation and comprehensive trauma assessment are addressed through ITLS (International Trauma Life Support) annually.

**Funding Request Overview**

**Total Grant Amount Requested: \$13,650.00**

**Individual Projects for FY2026**

- **Project or Category #1: The Airway and Lung Course** – an 18-hour online course combining the essential airway, along with a state-of-the-art literature-focused, comprehensive review of ED-focused lung disorders. Digital Course Bundle: Streaming video, downloadable video, PDF manual, USB drive with all contents and printed manual.
  - **Amount Requested: \$520**
  - **Planned Use of Funds:** Provide Advanced Airway Management Education using an online platform that can be assigned annually or bi-annually as needed. Although this need is addressed through the annual trauma skills lab, education and training clearly need to expand based on this need's assessment.
    - Item/Service: Digital Course Bundle | Cost: \$445
    - Item/Service: USB Drive Content | Cost: \$25
    - Item/Service: Printed manual | Cost: \$50
- **Project or Category #2: ITLS Courses**
  - **Amount Requested: \$ 11,920**
  - **Planned Use of Funds:** Provide in-person trauma resuscitation to EMT-EMT-P through ITLS training courses. Courses will be held bi-annually with locations convenient to accommodate the region. Although this need is addressed annually, there is a clear need for more frequent and convenient offerings based on this needs assessment.
    - Item/Service: Books | Cost: \$2000 – Good for at least 5 years



- Item/Service: Instructor Fees | Cost: \$3600
  - Item/Service: Course materials/cards/postage | Cost: \$1000
  - Item/Service: Victims for moulage and assistance | Cost: \$360
- **Project #3: Meeting Owl 3** – Aims to enhance hybrid training for pre-hospital care providers, including paramedics and EMTs, providing remote learning engagement and accessibility. This technology will bridge the gap between in-person and virtual training, ensuring high-quality, interactive education while reducing travel costs and logistical barriers.
  - **Amount Requested:** \$1210
  - **Planned Use of Funds:** To improve hybrid training sessions and meetings across the region. Purchase Meeting Owl 3 Systems to equip training facilities and mobile simulation units. Integration with existing learning management and conferencing systems.
    - Item/Service: Meeting Owl 3 | Cost: \$1050
    - Item/Service: Zoom Account | Cost: \$160

### How will this funding support the entire region and address specific needs?

1. Improved Training Access for All EMS Providers
  - Virtual training options will allow EMS personnel in rural and underserved areas to participate in advanced education.
  - Self-paced and flexible learning opportunities will accommodate shift workers.
2. Enhanced Emergency Response Skills
  - Specialized courses, like the Airway and Lung Course, will equip EMS professionals with advanced airway management techniques and a deeper understanding of respiratory emergencies.
  - ITLS training will improve trauma resuscitation capabilities, ensuring responders are prepared for critical injury scenarios.
3. Greater Collaboration and Knowledge Sharing
  - Peer-led workshops and mentorship programs will foster a stronger, more connected EMS community.
  - Encouraging cross-disciplinary training will improve coordination with other emergency responders and healthcare providers.
4. More Effective Communication Between EMS Leadership and Providers
  - Implementing communication tools such as newsletters, emails, and portals will ensure that EMS personnel are informed about training opportunities and policy updates.
5. Stronger EMS educational learning system for the Entire Region
  - High-quality training leads to faster, more effective emergency response, ultimately improving patient outcomes.
  - Investing in continuing education helps with recruitment and retention, reducing turnover in EMS agencies.

By addressing these educational needs and operational challenges, the funding will create a more skilled, better-equipped EMS workforce, ultimately leading to stronger emergency medical services and improved patient care across the region.



**Do you have a regional organization to manage the funding?** Yes, GEMSA currently manages Region 7's funds.



## **Region 10- RTAC EDUCATIONAL NEEDS ASSESSMENT SUMMARY**

Coordinator Name: Kristin Spires

### Demographics

- Total Number of Responses: 94
- Responder Certification Levels:
  - EMTs: 3
  - EMT-Is or AEMTs: 24
  - Paramedics: 38
  - Other : 2
- Average Years of Experience:
  - 0-2 years: 7
  - 3-5 years: 12
  - 6-10 years: 9
  - 11-15 years: 8
  - 16-20 years: 6
  - More than 20 years: 28
- Total Number of EMS Agencies Represented in Leadership: 10
- Total Number of Hospitals Represented: 4

### Top 5 Findings from the Educational Needs Assessment

1. Providers need more training in advanced airway management, pediatric emergencies, trauma resuscitation, and MCI response.
2. Providers prefer in-person, 4-8 hour long courses that include hands-on and simulation-based learning.
3. Many providers have limited access to simulation training and believe they would benefit from better access to simulation labs.
4. The most reported barriers to quality education include scheduling conflicts, limited instructor availability, financial constraints, and difficulties accessing continuing education due to time and travel limitations.
5. Providers see significant value in enhanced collaboration between Trauma Centers and EMS agencies to expand educational opportunities and improve access to training.



## Recommendations for Educational or Programmatic Interventions

1. Develop up to three Train the Trainer courses tailored to address region-specific needs, such as Airway Progression, Trauma Resuscitation (focusing on trauma center resources, MCI/triage, and critical patient management), and Instructor Development. These courses will be delivered to EMS leadership and supervisors, who will then train their staff, ensuring that the knowledge and skills are effectively disseminated throughout the region. This action directly responds to findings in the educational needs assessment, which highlighted the need for more targeted and advanced training in these key areas of trauma care and related EMS skills.
2. Region 10 requests funding to support the creation of a trauma training trailer, stocked with low-fidelity manikins, task trainers, and necessary supplies. Access to this equipment will enable EMS providers across the region to conduct in-house training that is tailored to local needs. This initiative will allow for hands-on practice in realistic trauma scenarios, improving skills and preparedness for real-world situations. By addressing the gap in access to simulation equipment identified in the educational needs assessment, this project will enhance practical training opportunities for EMS providers, especially in underserved areas where these resources are currently limited.

What needs are already being addressed by the RTAC.

1. Establishment of the Regional EMS Education Subcommittee – This committee was created to focus on the educational needs of EMS providers within the region and ensure that resources and support are tailored to their requirements.
2. Efficient communication of educational opportunities has been a challenge within the Region. To address this, RTAC has utilized social media to promote regional educational opportunities and developed a shared educational calendar, offering a centralized platform for tracking all available training, courses, and other relevant educational events within the region.

## Funding Request Overview

Total Grant Amount Requested: **\$27,618**

Individual Projects for FY2026

- Project or Category #1: **Development and implementation of airway progression, trauma resuscitation (including trauma center resources, MCI/triage, and management of critical patients), and instructor development courses.**
  - Amount Requested: \$2,500



- Planned Use of Funds:
  - Item/Service: : Compensation for 5 hours per course and instructional planning for 4 instructors. | Cost: \$2,500
- Project or Category #2: **Creation of Regional Trauma Trailer**
  - Amount Requested: \$22,118
  - Planned Use of Funds:
    - Item/Service: Trailer | Cost: \$4,999
    - Item/Service: Equipment | Cost: \$17,119
- Project or Category #3: **Sponsorship for the Classic City EMS Providers and Educators Conference hosted by Georgia Region 10 EMS Director Association**
  - Amount Requested: \$3,000
  - Planned Use of Funds:
    - Item/Service: Platinum Sponsorship | Cost: \$3,000

How will this funding support the entire region and address specific needs?

This funding will support the region by developing and delivering targeted "train the trainer" courses focused on airway management, trauma resuscitation, MCI/triage, and instructor development. EMS leadership and supervisors will receive the necessary materials to teach these courses to their staff, ensuring consistent, high-quality training across the region. The creation of a mobile trauma trailer with advanced simulation equipment will increase access to hands-on training, allowing EMS providers to practice real-world scenarios. Together, these initiatives will address critical education gaps, improve EMS skills, and enhance patient care across the region.

Do you have a regional organization to manage the funding?

We are currently in discussions with the Region 10 EMS Directors Association regarding funding management.