

Colorado Resource for Emergency and Trauma Education (CREATE)

Fiscal Year End Report
2014 Edition

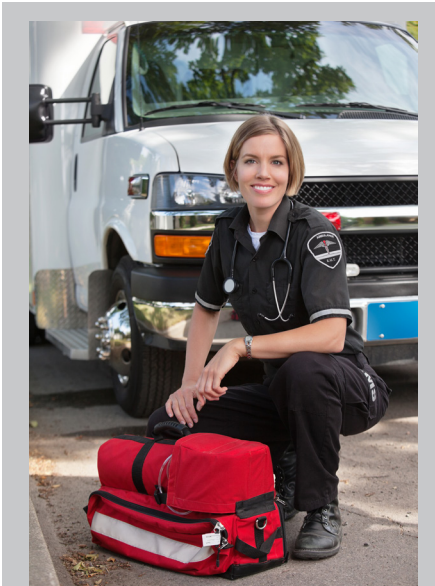
CREATE
Colorado Resource for Emergency And Trauma Education

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The State Office of Rural Health

Program Overview

Colorado Senate Bill 34, which is now governed under Colorado Revised Statute (CRS) Sec.1, 25-3.5-601 was created in 1989 to provide funding that will continue to improve the EMTS system in Colorado. CREATE is the education and training portion of the EMTS statewide grant funding initiative and is managed by the Colorado Rural Health Center (CRHC) and is funded through the Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment (CDPHE). The program is designed to assist public and private emergency medical and trauma services across the state with a 50% cash match grant for continuing education (CE) and initial training that will improve the system statewide. Specific eligible entities include ambulance services, fire agencies, state and local governing agencies, training facilities, hospitals, clinics, special districts and other public and private providers of ems and trauma services. The program is exclusive to emergency and trauma education.



CREATE offers a year-round application process with monthly review dates and multiple application options that result in a flexible program with greater access to grant funds and opportunity to take advantage of training and education all year long.



Process and Program Management

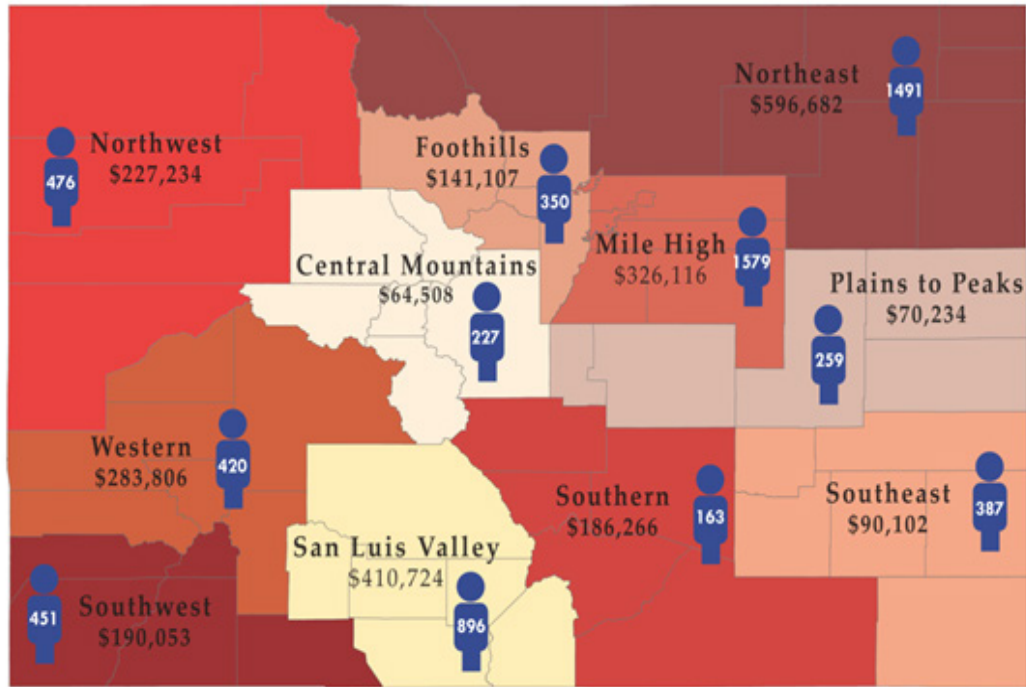
Applicants access online webpages that walk them through the process of applying for grant funds. Online resources include grant guidelines, five pre-application step-by-step instructions and links, frequently asked questions, a list of standard EMTS courses with maximum funding levels, and review dates. In addition, CREATE staff are available to help via phone, email and in-person presentation and workshop settings to answer questions and assist applicants with the process.

An Expert Review Committee (ERC) and Financial Waiver Committee are in place to review grant applications and make programmatic recommendations for changes to the program. ERC and Financial Waiver members dedicate a significant amount of time each month to this work. Both committees are composed of members from the EMTS community and a representative from the Colorado Rural Health Center.

Review committees and CRHC staff work closely with staff from Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment (CDPHE) to ensure the intent of the grant program is met. CRHC staff provided program administration, manage day-to-day grant activities, and conduct outreach services. Regional Emergency and Trauma Advisory Council (RETACs) help promote the program and provide additional outreach to grantees and applicants in their designated regions that ensure a cohesive effort in the process.

Four Years of Continual System Improvement

CREATE Invests Over \$1.6 million into Colorado's Emergency and Trauma Education



This map reflects the amount of capital invested into Colorado's emergency medical and trauma personnel through Colorado's Resource for Emergency and Trauma Education (CREATE) program since its inception in 2010.

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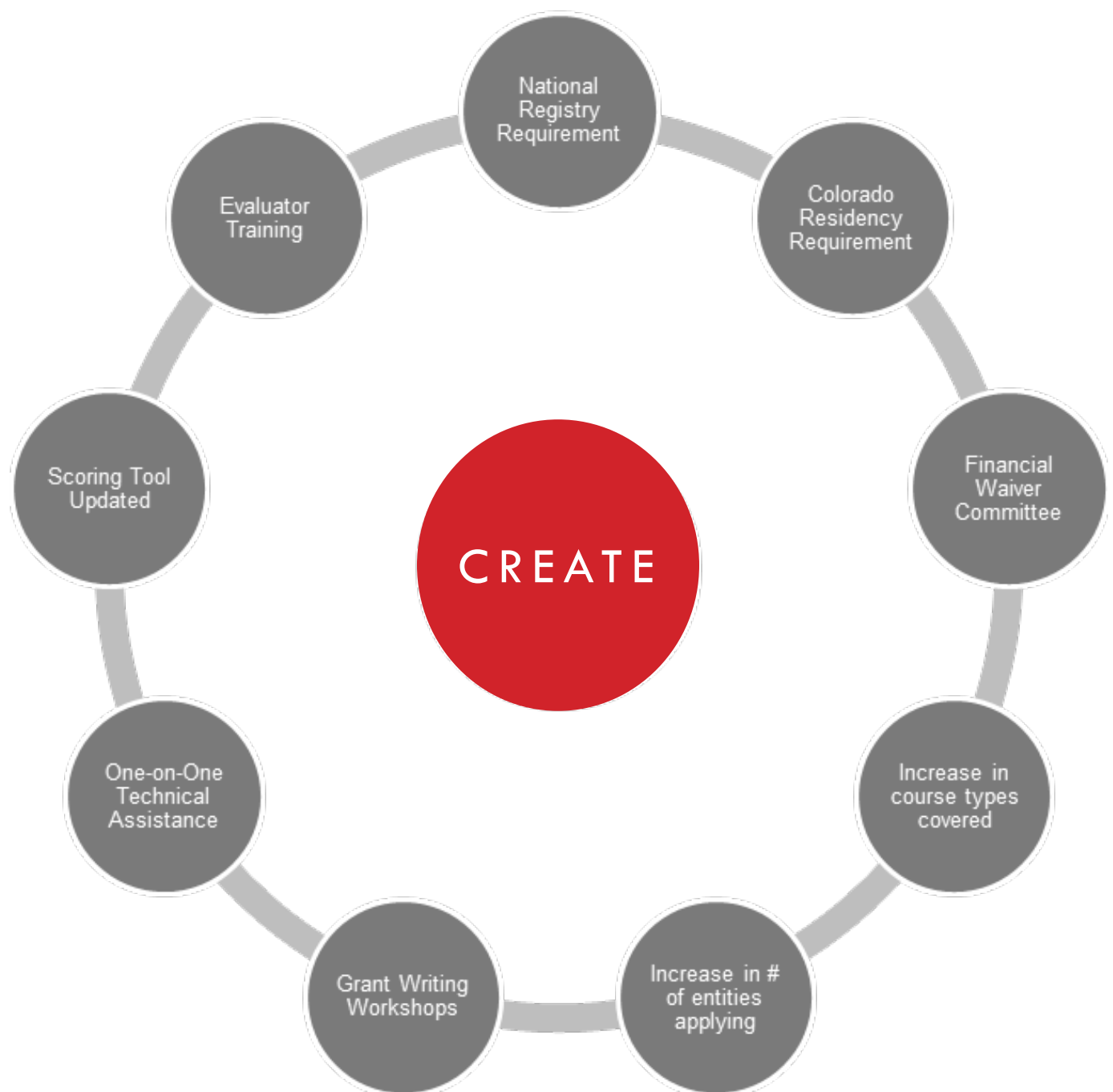
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CREATE has built a solid reputation of providing necessary funding to emergency and trauma entities across the state for education and training that has impacted more than 6,000 providers in four years. Between years 1 and 2 CREATE experienced a 13.7% decrease in participation, years 2 and 3 there was a 19% increase in participation and lastly year four experienced a 20% increase in participation. The evaluation committees have successfully funded 721 applications and distributed over \$1.6 million in grant funds for continuing and initial emergency and trauma education. It is important to note that 55% of those funded are volunteer providers who are dedicated to improving the EMTS system in Colorado.

Snapshot of Program Improvements

CREATE has experienced continual growth and improvement year-over-year that has allowed the program to come full circle within the EMTS community. Partnerships with RETACs have strengthened with increased grantee communication and as a result more than \$1.6 million in funding has been distributed.



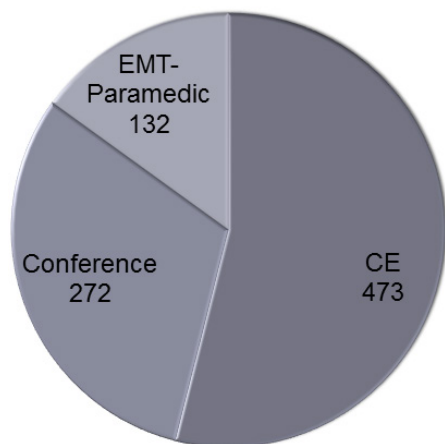
A Closer Look at Year Four

- 180 applications reviewed
 - 166 applications approved
 - 877 emergency and trauma providers received continuing and initial education
 - 55% of participants are volunteer EMTS providers
 - \$387,814 distributed
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- 90% of grantees reported in the final program year participant survey, said that it would be difficult to meet education and training expectations and requirements if CREATE were not available.
 - 272 EMTS providers were able to attend an emergency and/or trauma conference in fiscal year 2014 through CREATE support they might not have otherwise had the opportunity.
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- 89% of CREATE participants rate the payment process as good
 - 68 new Nationally Registered EMTs serving in Colorado through CREATE support
 - 36 new Nationally Registered Paramedics serving in Colorado through CREATE support
 - Over 700 EMTS providers received continuing education training through CREATE support

Who was Funded in Year Four

The success of the program can be seen in the participant numbers and program evaluation survey results. Overall, a gradual increase in trained emergency and trauma service providers in the past four years strongly confirm the commitment of the program staff, evaluators and SEMTAC to meeting the purpose of proving financial support that results in improvements in the Colorado EMTS system.

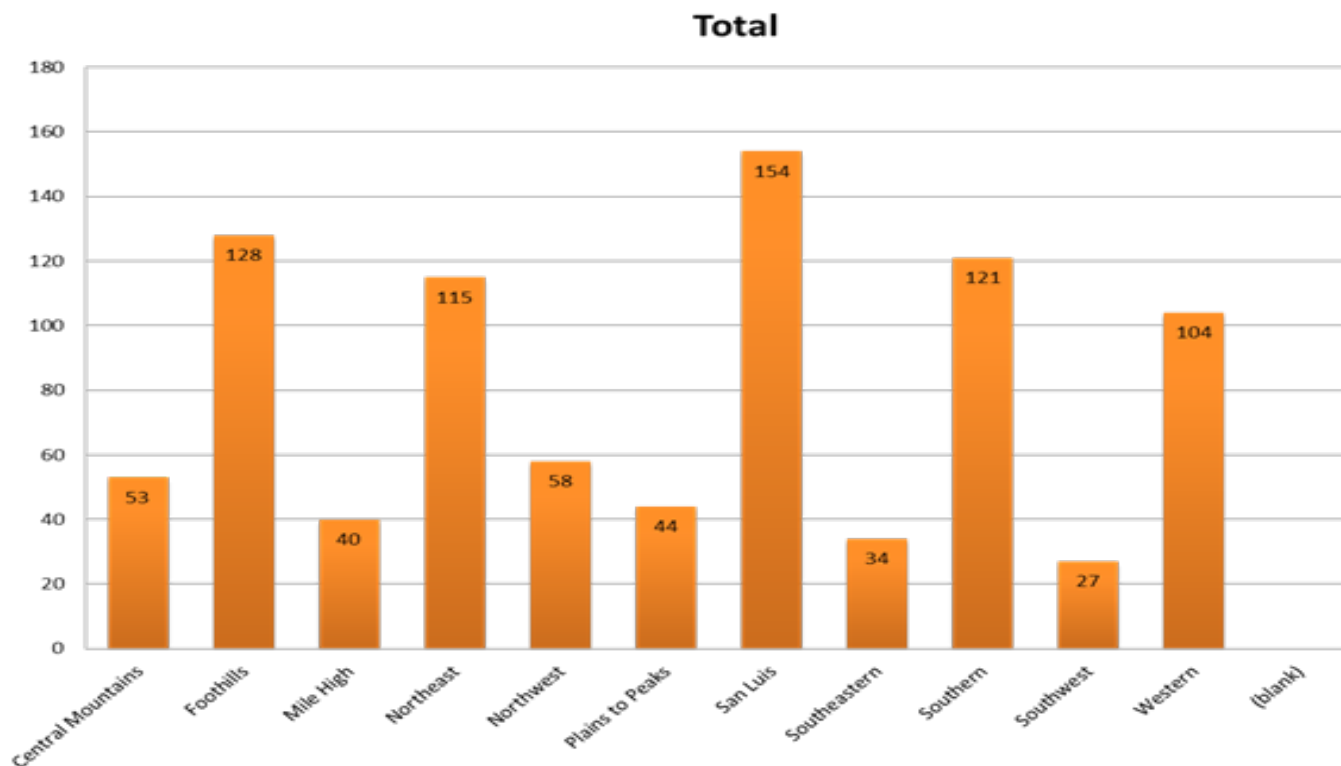
Courses funded through CREATE



CE course include: PALS, ACLS, Public Safety Diver, AMLS, ALS, ITLS, TCAR, BLS

Conferences included: Trinidad State Junior College EMS Symposium, EMS Gathering of Eagles Conference, NWRETAC Leadership Conference, Rocky Mountain Trauma Conference, 34th Symposium on Emergency Care, EMSAC Conference, Wilz Conference

Students funded by RETAC



RETAC support is crucial to the CREATE outreach efforts as many RETACs have begun including CREATE in their board reports and work closely with CREATE staff to teach new prospects the application process and provide technical assistance throughout each region. RETACs also assist CREATE staff with identifying applicants for technical assistance.

The Facts – FY14	FY14
Students Trained	877
Total Funds Dispersed	\$387,814
Applications Approved	166
Grant Workshops	8

During fiscal year 2014, it was noted that 55% of program participants were volunteers whom would not have otherwise had the opportunity to receive education and training without the CREATE 50% cash match grant.

Looking Ahead

A number of outreach mechanisms are in place to ensure the continued efforts of CREATE staff in providing technical assistance and communication avenues among all vested parties of the program. A quarterly article is included in the EMSAC Quarterly Newsletter that grantees report are a huge help in preparing applications. In addition a weekly CREATE Tip is posted in the Colorado Rural Health Center's Hospitals and Clinics Blog and is distributed to agencies statewide.

Grant Writing workshops will continue to be a part of the CREATE program's outreach efforts as 100% of participants reported they felt comfortable with the grant process after attending one of the sessions offered.

Coming in September 2014, the CREATE grant program is going electronic by which will offer participants to navigate the process quicker with minimal room for error. The five pre-application steps will provide quicker turnaround and easier access, especially for remote communities whom have previously struggled with sending large files for review

Contact Us

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Apply Online: www.coruralhealth.org/programs/create/