



*Kansas Emergency Management
Association
2100 N. Ohio Street, Suite B
Augusta, KS 67010*

Date: November 30, 2015

Re: Changes to KEMA Membership Year

As some of you may recall, the current KEMA membership year format (running from Sept 1st to Aug 31st) is a fairly new development, set by the Board in 2013 after changing from a traditional calendar year. This adjustment was made in response to feedback from members who, due to limitations set by their jurisdictions/agencies, were unable to make multiple payments to the association throughout the year (for memberships and conference fees). To ease this burden, the membership year was moved to coincide more closely with conference time, allowing members to make one single payment for everything. After testing the new arrangement for a couple of years, the Board has identified some issues with the September-to-August format. Most specifically, by “breaking” the membership year right before the conference, we have found that it causes some headache and confusion with regards to eligibility for voting and for “member” conference rates. With this in mind, the Board has voted to move the membership year one more time, this time shifting it so the transition falls right after the conference.

Effective immediately, the KEMA membership year will run from October 1st through September 30th of each year.

For those of you who already hold 2015-2016 memberships, those memberships have been automatically extended for an additional month, with a new expiration date of **9/30/2016** (regardless of the information printed on your membership card). The 2015-2016 KEMA membership will entitle you to the member rates at the 2016 conference and also make you eligible to vote in association elections between now and September 30th, 2016.

The Board would like to point out one important impact with this change: please keep in mind that, with the membership year ending AFTER the conference, that means that the 2016 conference will now be a benefit of the current membership year. Any memberships purchased at the conference will be considered to be for the next membership year that begins on October 1st. Anyone who is a non-member at the time of the conference, but wishes to vote in the elections or receive the member conference rate, will need to purchase a current year’s membership, despite there only being a few weeks left in that membership year.

If you have any questions at all about these changes, please do not hesitate to contact your regional Vice President or any KEMA Board member.

Sincerely,

Keri Korthals, KCEM
KEMA Board Secretary