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Collaborative counter-terrorism training takes place across Kentucky

The National Center for Biomedical Research and Training, or NCBRT, at LSU recently taught an Emergency Response to Domestic Biological Incidents, or ERDBI, course simultaneously to five locations around Kentucky. In a joint effort with the Kentucky Office of Homeland Security, The Center for Rural Development and the Kentucky Community and Technical College System, or KCTCS, the NCBRT taught the popular course through interactive television reaching large numbers of emergency responders.

One hundred and twenty-one personnel from various law enforcement agencies, fire agencies, EMS, emergency management and public healthcare providers throughout Kentucky took part in the course at locations in Florence, Hazard, Louisville and Hopkinsville, Ky. A fifth location at KCTCS in Somerset, Ky., served as host to the course's three lead Department of Homeland Security Office of Grants and Training certified instructors who interacted with course attendees there as well as attendees at the four remote locations. Through lectures, class interaction and real-life scenarios, attendees learned how to responsibly plan for, respond to and manage a biological incident.

Current plans are for NCBRT and The Center for Rural Development to partner on similar "virtual classroom" projects in the future, possibly on a national scale.