



Kansas Infant Death and SIDS Network

December 20, 2024

The Kansas Infant Death and SIDS (KIDS) Network is pleased to invite you to apply for the 15th Biannual Safe Sleep Instructor (SSI) Certification training. This training will be held in collaboration with the University of Kansas School of Medicine-Wichita Center for Research in Infant Birth and Survival (CRIBS) and will take place in Wichita, KS, on May 29-30, 2025. The SSI Certification training is partially funded by a Title V grant from the Kansas Department of Health and Environment.

The aim of the KIDS Network SSI Certification is to equip instructors with the skills needed to effectively educate parents, caregivers, child care providers, healthcare professionals, and community members on safe infant sleep practices through standardized training and outreach efforts.

Attendees will receive the following:

- Instruction on how to present Safe Sleep education to professionals and caregivers
- Information on current research and data on SIDS and other sleep-related causes of infant death
- Education on the most recent American Academy of Pediatrics (AAP) Safe Sleep Recommendations
- Tools to address challenges to implementing safe sleep, such as cultural norms, myths, and commercial devices
- Step-by-step guidance on how to facilitate a KIDS Network Safe Sleep Community Baby Shower/ Crib Clinic
- Overview of the Cribs for KIDS National Safe Sleep Hospital Certification and the KIDS Network Safe Sleep Star Outpatient Toolkit
- Access to safe sleep, breastfeeding, tobacco cessation and maternal mental health resources and materials to support safe sleep promotion
- Support through technical assistance, Webinars, and peer-to-peer learning
- Networking opportunities with other KIDS Network Safe Sleep Instructors
- KIDS Network Safe Sleep Instructor Certification

Each SSI will be tasked with the following deliverables to be eligible for recertification:

1. Train at least 10 professionals in their local community and input all data by May 29, 2026
2. Facilitate/co-facilitate KIDS Network Safe Sleep Community Baby Showers/10 Crib Clinics in their local community and input all data by May 29, 2026

Advanced training is also available to:

3. Implement the Cribs for KIDS National Safe Sleep Hospital Certification in a local hospital and/or
4. Implement the KIDS Network Safe Sleep Star Outpatient Toolkit in pediatric, obstetric and/or family medicine clinics.

The KIDS Network SSI Certification has successfully certified more than 400 Safe Sleep Instructors, who have trained over 7,000 professionals and over 5,000 families. These trainings have resulted in significant improvements in knowledge of the AAP Safe Sleep Recommendations and intentions of parents/caregivers to follow the AAP Recommendations. Additionally, eight hospitals have engaged in the Cribs for KIDS National Safe Sleep Hospital Certification and 13 clinics have engaged in the KIDS Network Safe Sleep Star Outpatient Clinic Certification. By joining this train-the-trainer program, you or a representative from your organization can become a leader in your community, delivering evidence-based strategies to help reduce infant mortality.

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Training Details

The two-day Safe Sleep Instructor training will take place on Thursday and Friday, **May 29th and 30th, 2025**, in Wichita, KS. All participants must attend both days of the training. The early bird registration fee is \$450 if application is received by **January 24, 2025**. After this date, the registration fee will increase to \$500. The registration fee covers the training manual, handouts, a Safe Sleep Kit (including a portable crib, doll, wearable blanket, diapers, wipes, and other materials), certification for continuing education credits, access to bi-monthly webinars, and the KIDS Network Safe Sleep Instructor Certificate. Lunch will be provided on both days.



Potential Candidates

SSIs can include healthcare providers (such as perinatal, prenatal, and early childhood professionals), first responders (fire, EMS, law enforcement), child welfare workers, community health workers, educators, coalition members, and other respected community leaders committed to reducing sleep-related infant deaths. Ideal candidates will show the ability to effectively communicate safe sleep guidelines and utilize training materials. Because space is limited, participants are selected based on their qualifications and their ability to provide safe sleep education within their local communities.

Registration Process

To apply for the Safe Sleep Instructor Certification training, please complete the attached registration form via REDCap <https://redcap.kumc.edu/surveys/?s=TXY9KY7N3FN4AYAH>

Applications are due by **February 21, 2025**. Acceptance letters will be sent via email by February 28, 2025. Please hold these dates on your calendar in case you are selected. Feel free to share this information with others who may be interested based on the details provided above.

If you have any questions regarding the KIDS Network SSI Certification Training or the registration process, please contact Maria Torres, SSI Program Director, at 316-682-1301 or via email at ssidirector@kidsks.org.

Sincerely,

Maria Torres, BS

Maria Torres, BS
Program Director

Christy S. Schunn, LSCSW

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