

# DEPARTMENT OF FORESTRY AND FIRE PROTECTION OFFICE OF THE STATE FIRE MARSHAL

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Date: January 8, 2021

To: Statewide Training and Education Advisory Committee

State Board of Fire Services

From: Caryn Petty, Deputy State Fire Marshal

State Fire Training

## Subject/Agenda Action Item:

Allan Hancock College Accredited Regional Training Program (ARTP) Re-Accreditation

#### **Recommended Actions:**

Recommend Allan Hancock College remain an Accredited Regional Training Program (ARTP) in the State Fire Training (SFT) system for the Re-Accreditation period of five (5) years.

### **Background Information:**

A Re-Accreditation Site Evaluation was conducted on November 17, 2020, at the Allan Hancock Public Safety Training Center located at One Hancock Drive in Lompoc, California. The Evaluation was conducted by Deputy State Fire Marshal Caryn Petty, State Fire Training. Dean of Public Safety Dave Whitham, Academy Coordinator Leonard Champion, outgoing-Coordinator Andy Densmore, and Instructor Doug Dickson were present throughout.

A review of the College's Self-Assessment Report (SAR) was discussed, with requirements for supplemental documentation noted. Said documentation has since been received and has met the requirements as set forth by State Fire Training policies and procedures. The review of the SAR was followed by an evaluation of all classrooms and training facilities with opportunity to review training course records and equipment compliment.

#### **Analysis/Summary:**

A tour of the training facilities indicated sufficient classroom space with a fully functioning training tower complete with all necessary props, tools, equipment, and vehicles to accommodate a fire

academy training program as supplemented by satellite and partnered training sites and locations. Allan Hancock College has successfully transitioned to the Fire Fighter (2019) curriculum and possesses all necessary materials for continued certification examinations. The training facility presents appropriate academy classrooms equipped with enhanced audio/visual equipment and necessary learning aids. Academy recruits are provided sufficient study materials and equipment for applicable success within the Academy training. Several Registered Instructors participate in the Academy delivery and the College will be expanding its hosting of additional State Fire Training courses in conjunction with cooperating and neighboring agencies.

- The current staffing is at its capacity with staff working well beyond the typical work schedule and hours. This condition has tasked existing staff with excessive workloads beyond the Academy delivery that would be offset with additional resources and personnel. The following have been identified as necessary to lessen the workload of existing staff and ensure the thorough delivery of the Academy free of peripheral assignments, tasks, and duties.
  - Full-time faculty staff member(s)
  - o Full-time Facilities Manager
  - Clerical personnel
  - Public Safety Support Technician(s)
- To adequately prepare students for hire, integration of the formalized CAL FIRE Basic Fire Academy into the ARTP program is recommended for regional and statewide preparedness.
- The College requires adjunct program instructors to possess a background in fire service operations which has limited access to subject-matter expert participation in curriculum delivery. It is recommended that SMEs and/or Guest Lecturers be provided a means of compensation when engaging in instruction with academy students.

Allan Hancock College provides a diverse student population with an affordable, robust, and well-rounded training program, bolstered by active recruitment and outreach efforts. The College provides an array of State Fire Training courses to an underserved region in Southern California, with various technical rescue and specialized courses being delivered. Through ongoing mentoring, the College is ensuring instructor relevance and program sustainability. Allan Hancock College possesses an unwavering devotion to complete student development, serving students and fire service professionals, alike. The unique training opportunities and program innovation makes it a standout leader in the California fire service training and education program and as an ARTP. It is recommended that Allan Hancock College continue to be designated as an Accredited Regional Training Program in the State Fire Training system for a Re-Accreditation period of five (5) years.