



DEPARTMENT OF FORESTRY AND FIRE PROTECTION
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Date: July 14, 2023

To: Statewide Training and Education Advisory Committee
c/o State Fire Training

From: Caryn Petty, Deputy State Fire Marshal III (Specialist)
State Fire Training

Subject/Agenda Action Item:

College of San Mateo Accredited Regional Training Program (ARTP) Reaccreditation

Recommended Actions:

Recommend College of San Mateo be provided Accredited Regional Training Program (ARTP) Reaccreditation in the State Fire Training (SFT) system for a period of four-and-a-half years.

Background Information:

A Reaccreditation Site Evaluation was conducted on April 17, 2023, at the College of San Mateo campus at 1700 West Hillsdale Boulevard in San Mateo, CA. The accreditation visit was conducted by Deputy State Fire Marshal III (Specialist) Caryn Petty, State Fire Training. Introductions were facilitated by Academy Chief Christy Baird which included Francisco Gamez, Dean of Business and Technology; Chris Wettstein, Academy Co-Director; Ryan Frederick, Academy Co-Director; Fire Chief Bruce Barron, Central County Fire; Fire Chief Ray Iverson, Redwood City Fire; Fire Chief Jesus Magallanes, South San Francisco Fire; Program Services Coordinator Michelle Schneider; Academy Equipment Managers Chris Baldwin and Ronnie Goo; Instructor Colin Taylor; and Student Armon Plummer.

The College's Self-Assessment Report (SAR) was reviewed and 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 a tour of the training facilities with opportunity to assess training course records and equipment complement.

Analysis/Summary of Issue:

A tour of the training facilities indicated sufficient classroom space with a fully functioning and compliant training tower complete with all necessary props, tools, equipment, and vehicles to accommodate a fire academy training program. The College utilizes the Fire Fighter (2019)

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curriculum and possesses all necessary materials for successful and complete Certification Examination delivery.

The College campus exhibits appropriate California Fire Code-compliant classrooms equipped with enhanced audio/visual equipment and necessary learning aids. All Academy recruits are provided sufficient study materials, devices, and equipment for applicable success within the Academy training. Several Registered Instructors participate in the Academy delivery with members from regional partners complementing the need for Registered Instructors and Evaluators.

Area(s) of focus for growth and improvement:

- Continued Fire Advisory Committee/Board meetings are recommended to continue fostering the growing relationships in the region. This Committee should include varied members from the region for enhanced networking and partnership opportunities.
- The current staffing is at its capacity with workloads beyond the Academy delivery that would be offset with additional resources and personnel. The College has identified a specific need for additional personnel to lessen the workload of existing staff and ensure the thorough delivery of the Academy free of peripheral assignments, tasks, and duties.
- Given the complexity of Academy delivery, it is recommended that CSM explore allocation of funds to support on-site campus storage with exploration of a dedicated trailer and vehicle for transport of equipment when travelling to one of the associated satellite training locations.
- Improved locker rooms, shower facilities, decontamination stations, and multiple extractors will serve to accommodate a safe and healthy learning environment. It is recommended that procurement of additional facilities be explored to ensure student safety.

College of San Mateo is committed to the ideal of academic freedom derived through careful and critical appraisal, providing a place where student, faculty, and staff may formulate ideas and values. Focused on fostering and developing fire service professionals, CSM continually demonstrates cooperative partnership facilitation and innovation through construction of cooperative relationships within the region.

In accordance with the California Code of Regulations, Title 19, and the *SFT Procedures Manual (2019)*, Accreditation Process, Section 3.1.6(E), a six-month Accreditation Extension was granted to ensure program stabilization while working toward sustainability. All requirements set forth by State Fire Training have been satisfied for Reaccreditation and there has been no lapse in accreditation.

State Fire Training recommends continued recognition of the College of San Mateo as an Accredited Regional Training Program in the State Fire Training system for a Reaccreditation period of four-and-a-half years.