



DEPARTMENT OF FORESTRY AND FIRE PROTECTION
OFFICE OF THE STATE FIRE MARSHAL
State Fire Training Division
P.O. Box 944246
SACRAMENTO, CA 94244-2460
(916) 568-2911
Website: www.fire.ca.gov



Date: July 8, 2022

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:

Glendale Community College/Verdugo Fire Academy Accredited Regional Training Program (ARTP) Reaccreditation

Recommended Actions:

Recommend Glendale Community College/Verdugo Fire Academy be provided Accredited Regional Training Program (ARTP) Reaccreditation in the State Fire Training (SFT) system for a period of five (5) years.

Background Information:

A Reaccreditation Site Evaluation was conducted on May 12, 2022, at the Glendale Community College/Verdugo Fire Academy (GVFA) training facility at 541 Chevy Chase Drive in Glendale, CA. The accreditation visit was conducted by Deputy State Fire Marshal III (Specialist) Caryn Petty, State Fire Training. Introductions were facilitated by Academy Chief Sam Digiovanna which included Program Co-Director Anthony Bagan and instructors Ken Bateman and Craig Peltier. 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) 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 clerical personnel to lessen the workload of existing staff and ensure the thorough delivery of the Academy free of peripheral assignments, tasks, and duties.
- 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.
- It is recommended that procurement exploration be conducted for the following:
 - o Mobile devices (tablets) for supplementation of instructional delivery and Certification Exam participation
 - o Updates to existing electronic devices and EMS learning aides
 - o Full PPE for applicable instructors

Glendale Community College 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. The Academy staff and directors support the ideals of excellence, human worth, and realization of human potential. Focused on fostering and developing fire service professionals, GVFA continually demonstrates cooperative partnership facilitation and innovation through construction of cooperative relationships within the region.

State Fire Training recommends continued recognition of the Glendale Community College/Verdugo Fire Academy as an Accredited Regional Training Program in the State Fire Training system for a Reaccreditation period of five (5) years.