



**DEPARTMENT OF FORESTRY AND FIRE PROTECTION  
OFFICE OF THE STATE FIRE MARSHAL  
STATE FIRE TRAINING**

P.O. Box 944246  
SACRAMENTO, CA 94244-2460  
(916) 902-9738  
Website: [www.fire.ca.gov](http://www.fire.ca.gov)



**Date:** April 14, 2024

**To:** Statewide Training and Education Advisory Committee  
State Board of Fire Services

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

**SUBJECT/AGENDA ACTION ITEM:**

Stockton Fire Department, Accredited Local Academy (ALA) Reaccreditation

**Recommended Actions:**

Recommend Stockton Fire Department remain an Accredited Local Academy (ALA) in the State Fire Training (SFT) system for the reaccreditation period of five (5) years.

**Background Information:**

A Reaccreditation Site Evaluation was conducted on February 9, 2024, at the Stockton Fire Department (SFD) Training Tower located at 110 W. Sonora Street in Stockton, California. The Accreditation Site Evaluation Team included Chief Chris Fowler, State Fire Training; Deputy State Fire Marshal III (Specialist) Caryn Petty, State Fire Training; and Staff Services Manager Brandon Erickson, State Fire Training. Stockton Fire Department representatives Steven Islas, Division Chief of Training, and Captain Gregory Domingo, Deputy Director of Training, were present throughout.

The SFD 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 an evaluation of all classrooms and training facilities with opportunity to review training course records and equipment compliment.

**Analysis/Summary of Issue:**

An evaluation of the training facilities indicated sufficient classroom space with a fully functioning and compliant training facility complete with all necessary props, tools, equipment, and vehicles to accommodate a fire academy training program. SFD utilizes the Fire Fighter (2019) curriculum and possesses all necessary materials for successful Certification Examination delivery. The training grounds exhibit appropriate a 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 and Evaluators participate in the Academy and Certification Exam delivery making the agency self-sustaining and the Department will focus on hosting additional State Fire Training courses in conjunction with cooperating and neighboring agencies. All student records are maintained in a compliant and confidential manner in accordance with State Fire Training requirements.

Area(s) of focus for growth and improvement:

- Consistent participation at training officer and ALA meetings is recommended to continue fostering the growing relationships in 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 Academy has identified a specific need for additional administrative support personnel to lessen the workload of existing staff and ensure the thorough delivery of the Academy free of peripheral assignments, tasks, and duties. Allocation of staffing hours and support with additionally lend toward the offset of workload.
- The SFD training grounds possess some aging structures and props in need of renovation and/or replacement.
- Improved locker rooms, shower facilities, and decontamination stations with extractors will serve to accommodate a safe and healthy learning environment. It is recommended that procurement of additional facilities be explored to ensure student and instructor safety.
- For complete, self-sustained Fire Fighter Academy delivery, procurement of dedicated training apparatus be explored with consideration to covered parking for vehicle longevity and security. This would include, but is not limited to, wildland apparatus.
- To successfully begin compliant delivery of the Fire Fighter 2 (2019) curriculum and Certification Examinations, it is recommended that procurement of a flammable liquids and gas fire prop be explored.
- The agency may benefit from utilization of Distance Education delivery of SFT courses. As an ALA, this is an option available that should be explored.
- Ongoing outreach via fire camps and community events is recommended for continued diversifications efforts.

The Stockton Fire Department is an accomplished and historical organization serving a uniquely diverse community. Well-rounded and experienced personnel provide for expansive response capabilities with a steadfast focus on serving the rapidly increasing needs of the community. A cooperative neighbor in the region, the agency serves to promote teamwork, reliability, and exceptional customer service. The Department provides comprehensive training evolutions focused on relevant and timely foundational practices, utilizing cutting-edge techniques and equipment with a focus on wellness and safety. Eager to meet the needs of the region, the agency has become an active participant in the SFT system.

The Stockton Fire Department has demonstrated a strong devotion to training and education that is indicative of a proud, professional, and progressive organization. State Fire Training recommends continued recognition of the Stockton Fire Department as an Accredited Local Academy in the State Fire Training system for a Reaccreditation period of five (5) years.