



DEPARTMENT OF FORESTRY AND FIRE PROTECTION
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Date: July 10, 2020

Attachment 6

To: John Binaski, Chairman
Statewide Training and Education Advisory Committee
c/o State Fire Training

From: Caryn Petty, Deputy State Fire Marshal
State Fire Training

Subject/Agenda Action Item:

Porterville College Accredited Regional Training Program (ARTP) Reaccreditation

Recommended Actions: Recommend Porterville College remain an Accredited Regional Training Program (ARTP) in the State Fire Training (SFT) system for the Reaccreditation period of five (5) years.

Background Information:

A Reaccreditation Site Evaluation was conducted on June 4, 2020, at the Porterville College training facility at 500 North Newcomb Street in Porterville, California. The Evaluation was conducted by Deputy State Fire Marshal Caryn Petty, State Fire Training, with Fire Technology Coordinator Mario Garcia 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 a tour of all classrooms and the facility with opportunity to review training course records and equipment compliment.

Analysis/Summary of Issue:

A tour of the training facilities indicated sufficient classroom space with a fully functioning training ground 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. Porterville College successfully adheres to the Fire Fighter 1 (2013) curriculum and possesses all necessary materials for continued certification testing and can transition to the 2019 curriculum with ease.

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 training grounds possess aging structures and props in need of renovation and/or replacement including its forcible entry and roof props. The storage connexes are aged and at capacity with identified need for additional storage solutions. The existing burn container needs replacement due to age, use, and structural integrity deterioration issues to ensure student safety. The apparatus used by the Academy requires parking at a neighboring agency location due to the lack of proper coverage and protection from the elements. It is recommended that an apparatus cover or other bay be procured for ease of access and Academy use. Such a structure may also serve to provide the additional storage needs. The site further lacks appropriate locker rooms, shower facilities, and extractors to accommodate a safe and healthy learning environment. It is recommended cleansing stations and shower trailers be procured to ensure student safety.

Porterville College serves a uniquely diverse student population, with many under-represented demographics participating in the Academy. The College maintains a dedication to providing a strong fire training program to the communities it occupies, focusing on outreach efforts to reach underserved populations, student and staff recruitment, and cooperation with neighboring agencies and training programs. It is recommended that Porterville College continue to be designated as an Accredited Regional Training Program in the State Fire Training system for a reaccreditation period of five (5) years.