



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

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**Date:** January 9, 2026

**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:**

Allan Hancock College  
Accredited Regional Training Program (ARTP) Reaccreditation

**Recommended Actions:**

Recommend Allan Hancock College be reaccredited as an Accredited Regional Training Program (ARTP) in the State Fire Training (SFT) system for a reaccreditation period of five (5) years.

**Background Information:**

A reaccreditation Site Evaluation was conducted on November 19, 2025, at the Allan Hancock College facility in Lompoc, CA. The Site Evaluation was conducted by Deputy State Fire Marshal III (Specialist) Caryn Petty, State Fire Training, with Chief Leonard Champion and Director of Fire, Law Enforcement, Safety, and EMS Education Dave Whitham serving as hosts and representatives.

The Allan Hancock College Self-Assessment Report (SAR) was reviewed and discussed, with requirements for supplemental documentation noted. The documentation has since been received and meets the requirements 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 an opportunity to review training course records and equipment complement.

**Analysis/Summary of Issue:**

An evaluation of the training facilities verified sufficient classroom space, with a fully functioning and compliant training facility, complete with all necessary props, tools, equipment, and vehicles to support a fire academy training program. The program utilizes the Fire Fighter (2019) curriculum and possesses all necessary materials for delivering a successful Certification Examination. The program will transition to the 2024 curriculum in Spring 2026. The training grounds feature California Fire Code-compliant classrooms equipped with enhanced audiovisual equipment and necessary learning aids. All academy cadets are provided with sufficient study materials, devices, and equipment to support their success within the academy training. Several Registered Instructors and Evaluators

participate in the academy instruction and Certification Exam delivery, making the program self-sustaining. The program will focus on hosting additional registered SFT courses in conjunction with cooperating and neighboring agencies. All student records are maintained in a compliant and confidential manner in accordance with SFT requirements.

Area(s) of focus for growth and improvement:

- Consistent participation at the California Fire Technology Director Association's meetings is recommended to continue fostering the growing relationships in the region for enhanced networking and partnership opportunities.
- The program may benefit from the utilization of Distance Education delivery of SFT courses while garnering students from throughout the State. As an ARTP, this is an available option.
- Exploration of Certification Exam progression is recommended, including digitization of skills sheets, video recording, expansion of additional Exam offerings to include Fire and Emergency Services 1 and 2, and Alternate Candidate exam events.
- The program shall continue to explore outreach and recruitment opportunities for expanded diversification of the instructor cadre roster. Ongoing outreach via fire camps and community events is recommended for continued diversification efforts.

Allan Hancock College is housed in a state-of-the-art Public Safety Training Complex in Lompoc, offering a unique and destination location for training. The program has served the Central Coast since 1972 and was among the first ARTPs to initiate the Certification Exam process. An excellent partner in the region, Allan Hancock College collaborates closely with surrounding agencies, offering a range of SFT courses. The students and staff are eager participants in the statewide system, maintaining excellent working relations with SFT on many levels, including instructional delivery, advisory committee participation, academy enhancement, and instructor development.

State Fire Training recommends continued recognition of Allan Hancock College as an Accredited Regional Training Program for an accreditation period of five (5) years.