



**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:

Los Angeles County Fire Department
Accredited Local Academy (ALA) Reaccreditation

Recommended Actions:

Recommend the Los Angeles County Fire Department be reaccredited as an Accredited Local Academy (ALA) 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 17, 2025, with the Los Angeles County Fire Department. The Site Evaluation was conducted by Deputy State Fire Marshal III (Specialist) Caryn Petty, State Fire Training, with Assistant Chief Derrick Chapman and Fire Captain Jamie Gabriel serving as hosts and representatives. Also in attendance were Fire Captains Mike Chapman, Stephen Mann, Jordan Barnes, and Taylor Fernsten.

The Los Angeles County Fire Department 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 Department utilizes the Fire Fighter (2019) curriculum and possesses all necessary materials for delivering a successful Certification Examination. The training grounds feature California Fire Code-compliant classrooms equipped with enhanced audiovisual equipment and necessary learning aids. All academy recruits are provided with sufficient study materials, devices, and equipment for 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 Department 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 training officers and ALA meetings is recommended to continue fostering the growing relationships in the state for enhanced networking and partnership opportunities.
- Improved decontamination stations with extractors will serve to accommodate a safe and healthy learning environment. It is recommended that the procurement of additional facilities and equipment be explored to ensure the safety of both students and instructors.
- The agency may benefit from the utilization of Distance Education delivery of SFT courses. As an ALA, this is an available option.
- The Department shall continue to explore outreach and recruitment opportunities for expanded diversification of the instructor cadre roster. Ongoing outreach through fire camps and community events is recommended to support continued diversification efforts.

The Los Angeles County Fire Department is a distinguished and historic organization serving a vast area in Southern California. The agency is an active participant in the State Fire Training system, having collaborated in workgroups and cadres, and delivered 18 academies that have produced nearly 700 new firefighters since its last reaccreditation. Los Angeles County Fire Department boasts a thorough and challenging academy that incorporates comprehensive, timely, and relevant training. Its outreach efforts are exemplified through its Women's Fire Prep Academy and various youth camps and weekend events. Los Angeles County Fire Department is a statewide leader and stalwart participant in the SFT system.

State Fire Training recommends continued recognition of the Los Angeles County Fire Department as an Accredited Local Academy for an accreditation period of five (5) years.