



**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



Date: July 12, 2024

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

From: Caryn Petty, Statewide Academy Coordinator

SUBJECT/AGENDA ACTION ITEM:

Sacramento Metropolitan Fire District, Accredited Local Academy (ALA) Reaccreditation

Recommended Actions:

Recommend Sacramento Metropolitan Fire District remain an Accredited Local Academy (ALA) in the State Fire Training (SFT) system for the reaccreditation period of four-and-a-half (4.5) years.

Background Information:

A Reaccreditation Site Evaluation was conducted on June 3, 2024, at the Sacramento Metropolitan Fire District training facility at 7641 Greenback Lane in Citrus Heights, CA. The Accreditation Site Evaluation was conducted by Deputy State Fire Marshal Caryn Petty, State Fire Training, with Assistant Chief Michael Lozano, Captain Russell Garnder, Firefighter/Paramedic Derrick Sheetz, and Administrative Specialist Dana Lipps serving as site hosts and representatives.

The SMFD 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. SMFD 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-sustained. 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 training apparatus exhibits ongoing needs for upkeep and maintenance. Preventative maintenance of the apparatus will serve to ensure longevity of the training program with recommended attention toward procurement of additional apparatus to meet the needs of training delivery.
- 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 for continued personnel development and agency self-sustainability.
- Ongoing outreach via fire camps and community events is recommended for continued diversifications efforts.

The Sacramento Metropolitan Fire District boasts a thorough and challenging academy, incorporating comprehensive, timely, and relevant training. The SMFD training and education program establishes, and builds upon, the knowledge, skills, and abilities of its members to safely and effectively perform all the functions within their positions with the utmost professionalism. Given its progressive nature, the Department possesses a need for additional administrative support for continued growth and innovation of its already expansive training division. The Sacramento Metropolitan Fire District has demonstrated a steadfast devotion to fire training, safety, and standardization.

In accordance with the California Code of Regulations, Title 19, and the *SFT Procedures Manual (2019)*, Accreditation Process, Section 3.1.6(E), a six-month Accreditation Extension was granted. All requirements set forth by State Fire Training have been satisfied for Reaccreditation and there has been no lapse in accreditation.

State Fire Training recommends continued recognition of the Sacramento Metropolitan Fire District has as an Accredited Local Academy in the State Fire Training system for a Reaccreditation period of four-and-a-half (4.5) years.