



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

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Date: July 10, 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:

Compton College Accredited Regional Training Program (ARTP) Conditional Accreditation

Recommended Actions:

Recommend Compton College be accredited as an Accredited Regional Training Program (ARTP) in the State Fire Training (SFT) system for a Conditional Accreditation period of one (1) year.

Background Information:

An accreditation Site Evaluation was conducted on May 7, 2026, at the Compton College and Compton Fire Department facilities in Compton, CA. The Site Evaluation was conducted by Division Chief Chris Fowler and Deputy State Fire Marshal III (Specialist) Caryn Petty, State Fire Training, with President Keith Curry, Dean Gerson Valle, Compton Fire Chief Ronerick Simpson, and Deputy Fire Chief Reginald Donald serving as hosts and representatives.

The Compton 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 SAR review was followed by an evaluation of all classrooms and training facilities, with an opportunity to review training course records and the equipment complement.

Analysis/Summary of Issue:

An evaluation of the training facilities verified sufficient classroom space and a fully functioning, compliant training facility, complete with all necessary props, tools, equipment, and vehicles to support a fire academy training program. The program utilizes the current Fire Fighter curriculum and has all the necessary materials to deliver a successful Certification Examination. The College and 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 accreditation focus for growth and improvement:

- The program lacks an appointed Coordinator with an Interim appointment scheduled for Summer 2026. This is a requirement for accreditation and shall be met.
- The current staff lacks administrative and clerical support. There is an identified need for additional faculty and clerical personnel to ensure the Academy's delivery.
- 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.
- SFT recommends additional stationary locker rooms, shower facilities, and extractors to accommodate a safe and healthy learning environment. It is recommended that cleansing stations and shower facilities be expanded to ensure the safety of students and instructors.
- The program 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.

In compliance with the California Code of Regulations, Title 19, and the *SFT Procedures Manual*, Accreditation Process, Section 3.1.6(E), a one-year Conditional Accreditation may be granted in lieu of a full five-year Reaccreditation. This period will support continued growth, sustainability, and compliance for the Compton College ARTP. The College will be revisited in early 2027 for ARTP review and reaccreditation consideration.

State Fire Training recommends recognition of Compton College as an Accredited Regional Training Program in the State Fire Training system for an Initial Accreditation period of one (1) year, pending reevaluation in 2027.

[Attachment: Compton College ARTP Conditional Accreditation 2026]



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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:

Compton College - Accredited Regional Training Program (ARTP) Conditional Accreditation Supplemental Documentation

Recommended Actions:

Recommend Compton College be accredited as an Accredited Regional Training Program (ARTP) in the State Fire Training (SFT) system for a Conditional Accreditation period of one (1) year.

Background Information:

Per the Compton College Accredited Regional Training Program (ARTP) Site Evaluation conducted on May 7, 2026, the following document outlines the requirements for the one-year Conditional Accreditation as set forth by State Fire Training (SFT). A thorough review of the Compton College ARTP served as the basis for the program review.

Analysis/Summary of Issue:

Conditional Accreditation requires the following items to be completed by April 15, 2027, to ensure compliance with State Fire Training regulatory statute and established procedures (California Code of Regulations, Title 19, and the *SFT Procedures Manual*, Accreditation Process, Section 3.1.6(E)).

- ❑ An updated Self-Assessment Report (SAR) shall be drafted and submitted to SFT no later than April 15, 2027, detailing program progress with the items noted during the May 2026 Site Evaluation. This may be built upon the previously submitted SAR but shall clearly identify any/all changes, progress, issues, challenges, or other items necessary for complete review of the proposed ARTP.
- ❑ SFT requires a complete list of procured academy program design items, including, but not limited to, equipment, apparatus, tools, instructional materials, etc. This shall comply with the Fire Fighter Academy equipment and supplies list(s) in adherence with the *SFT Procedures Manual*, IFSAC/Pro Board, and the CCR, Title 19.

- ❑ Compton College shall provide SFT with a complete training budget and business plan, including current and projected expenditures, allotted program funding, grant funding, etc. The documentation provided shall detail the projected budget for the 2027-2030 Initial Accreditation cycle as well as the program development funding to date.
- ❑ Compton College shall provide SFT with the complete and finalized ARTP Fire Fighter Academy curriculum. This shall include complete course outlines, student and instructor manuals, and all supplemental student materials.
 - This shall include any/all amendments to the provided 2026 SAR, including prerequisite course(s) and application/selection processes.
- ❑ Compton College shall host or co-host no less than two (2) regionally offered SFT courses by March 1, 2027. This shall include, at minimum, one (1) California Fire Service Training and Education System (CFSTES) and one (1) Fire Service Training and Education Program (FSTEP). It is proposed that the College coordinate with neighboring ARTPs and agencies to identify the curriculum that is needed by the region (Company Officer, Driver/Operator, Instructor 1/2, etc.).
- ❑ Compton College shall demonstrate active recruitment of diversified Registered Instructors and Lead/Skills Evaluators that are reflective of the region and the College's neighboring fire agencies.
- ❑ Compton College shall provide a complete report detailing the staffing and administrative support necessary for program success. Any deficiencies shall be identified with a notated plan for correction.
 - Detail appropriate and adequate clerical and administrative personnel necessary to support the complete delivery of the Fire Fighter Academy. Because the current clerical staff member may be assigned to other programs, the College shall detail the means by which appropriate clerical and administrative support will be attained for the ARTP. Provide details regarding succession planning, hiring of additional support staff, etc.
 - Detail appropriate and adequate full-time Fire Science Technology and Academy coordination personnel. Individual roles and responsibilities shall be identified with information that supports complete oversight of the program. Full-time instructors, interim or adjunct assignments, and/or part-time personnel are not an appropriate means of ARTP oversight.
 - Detail current Fire Science Technology Program instructional staff, full- and part-time. The ARTP will be operating separately from the Fire Science program, and appropriate and adequate staffing shall be designated for each. While some crossover is permitted and encouraged, the ARTP is not intended to serve in multiple College instructional roles.
 - Compton College shall provide a complete list of Fire Fighter Academy instructors and their SFT Registered Instructor qualifications. The list shall identify adequate staffing for Academy curriculum delivery, with contingency plans for substitute instructors and/or schedule flexibility in the event of an absence, vacancy, etc.
 - Compton College shall provide a complete list of Registered Lead and Skills Evaluators. This list shall designate adequate staffing for the capstone IFSAC/Pro Board Fire Fighter Certification Exam(s), with a contingency plan in place should an absence, vacancy, etc. occur.
- ❑ Compton College shall convene a Fire Advisory Committee meeting biannually during the Conditional Accreditation period and provide an invitation and documented meeting minutes to SFT upon Site Re-Evaluation. This Committee shall be comprised of college administration/management and other appropriate staff, program staff and instructors, regional entities, regional partners and neighbors, and others as appropriate, to identify the

training and educational needs within the Fire Science Program, Fire Fighter Academy, and any/all collaborative training ventures.

- ❑ Compton College shall demonstrate active participation in the greater SFT system by maintaining active correspondence with SFT personnel and its designated liaison(s), attending regional training officer and CFTDA quarterly meetings, and working diligently to adhere to the requirements.

Compton College, as an Accredited Regional Training Program (ARTP), is solely responsible for ensuring ongoing compliance with all State Fire Training (SFT) statutes, regulations, and procedures, including California Code of Regulations, Title 19, and the *SFT Procedures Manual*. As outlined in the October 16, 2025, demand correspondence, the previously identified deficiencies—related to instructor qualifications, instructor-to-student ratios, use of approved skill sheets, and overall program safety and integrity—were the direct responsibility of the College’s administration and program oversight. While the College has taken corrective action to address these issues, the volume and nature of the findings required significant SFT intervention and oversight.

Moving forward, Compton College is expected to demonstrate consistent adherence to established standards without relying on alternative means or methods (variances). For a period of one (1) year, the College shall operate strictly in accordance with the *SFT Procedures Manual* and applicable regulations. Continued participation in the SFT system is contingent upon the College’s ability to maintain compliance, ensure program integrity, and prevent the recurrence of the previously identified deficiencies. Failure to demonstrate sustained compliance may result in additional enforcement action, including impacts to accreditation status.

The Compton College Accredited Regional Training Program (ARTP) will be recommended for a one-year Conditional Accreditation to the Statewide Training and Education Advisory Committee (STEAC) in July 2026 and the State Board of Fire Services in August 2026. Upon review and approval by these governing bodies, continued recognition of Compton College in the SFT system is contingent upon compliance with the requirements. Any failure to comply may result in the revocation of the Conditional Accreditation.