



**DEPARTMENT OF FORESTRY AND FIRE PROTECTION**  
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**Date:** October 8, 2021

**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:**

Las Positas College Accredited Regional Training Program (ARTP) Reaccreditation

**Recommended Actions:**

Recommend Las Positas College continue 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 June 24, 2021, at Las Positas College located at 3000 Campus Hill Drive in Livermore, California. The evaluation was conducted with Interim Dean of Public Safety Programs Erick O. Bell, Fire Academy Coordinator/LPFD Deputy Chief Aaron Lacey, Fire Academy Director German Sierra, and Administrative Assistant of Public Safety Programs Monica Alvarez. A review of the Department's Self-Assessment Report (SAR) was conducted 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:**

A review of the training program indicated sufficient classroom space with a fully functioning and compliant training tower complete with all necessary props, tools, equipment, and vehicles to accommodate a fire academy training program. Las Positas College partners with Livermore-Pleasanton Fire Department for much of its manipulative skills training which provides satisfactory materials and training opportunities necessary for certification testing and delivery of the Fire Fighter (2019) curriculum.

The training facility presents appropriate California Fire Code-compliant classrooms equipped with enhanced audio/visual equipment and necessary learning aids. All Academy students are provided sufficient study materials, devices, and equipment for applicable success within the Academy. Several Registered Instructors from throughout the region participate in the Academy delivery and the College will continue hosting additional State Fire Training courses in conjunction with cooperating and neighboring agencies. All student records are maintained in a compliant and confidential manner in accordance with State Fire Training requirements.

- The LPC Fire Academy is undergoing a staffing transition with implementation expected in Spring 2022, at which time SFT will revisit the campus to assess the program and provide guidance, as necessary. The program will not incur any periods of staffing lapses.
- LPC will be a partner entity in a new regional training facility expected to be operational in late 2023. SFT will monitor the development and construction of this facility.
- The current staffing is at its capacity having tasked existing staff with excessive workloads beyond the Academy delivery that would be offset with additional resources and personnel. There is an identified need for additional full-time faculty staff members and clerical personnel to lessen the workload of existing staff and ensure the thorough delivery of the Academy free of peripheral assignments, tasks, and duties.
- SFT recommends additional stationary locker rooms, shower facilities, and extractors to accommodate a safe and healthy learning environment. It is recommended cleansing stations and shower facilities be expanded to ensure student and instructor safety.

Las Positas College is an up-and-coming leader in the training and development of fire service professionals, recruiting from local high schools and diversification outreach programs to generate and maintain career interest in young adults. The College provides numerous continuing education opportunities for those seeking career advancement, offering a growing array of specialized courses and training events. 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.

Las Positas College possesses a strong devotion to student development through innovative, robust, and progressive training. It is recommended that Las Positas 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.