



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

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Date: October 11, 2024

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

From: Caryn Petty, Statewide Academy Coordinator

SUBJECT/AGENDA ACTION ITEM:

El Camino College, Accredited Regional Training (ARTP) Reaccreditation

Recommended Actions:

Recommend El Camino College remain an Accredited Regional Training (ARTP) in the State Fire Training (SFT) system for the reaccreditation period of five (5) years.

Background Information:

A Reaccreditation Site Evaluation was conducted on August 28, 2024, at the El Camino College training facilities at 206 W. Beach Avenue in Inglewood, CA. The Accreditation Site Evaluation was conducted by Deputy State Fire Marshal III (Specialist) Caryn Petty, State Fire Training with agency host Chief Jeff Baumunk serving as site host and representative with Drill Master Jeff Boise present throughout.

The El Camino College 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. The College utilizes the Fire Fighter (2019) curriculum and possesses all necessary materials for successful Certification Examination delivery. The training grounds exhibit appropriate a

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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 entity self-sustaining and the College will focus on 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.

Area(s) of focus for growth and improvement:

- Implementation of new training facility to occur by Spring 2026. Until that time, the existing training facility exhibits ongoing needs for equipment and facility maintenance. Upkeep and preventative maintenance of the facility, equipment, and apparatus will serve to ensure longevity of the training program.
 - o Improved locker rooms, shower facilities, and decontamination stations with extractors will serve to accommodate a safe and healthy learning environment. It is recommended that immediate attention to plumbing of purchased showers be prioritized to ensure student and instructor safety.
 - o Appropriate and improved stationary cover for apparatus to provide coverage and protection from the elements for longevity.
 - o Recommend sustained maintenance plan for aging apparatus that ensures cost-effectiveness and minimal program impact.
- Consistent participation at technology directors' 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 College has identified a specific need for additional personnel to lessen the workload of existing staff and ensure the thorough delivery of the Academy free of peripheral assignments, tasks, and duties.
 - o The utilization of professional/temporary non-classified employees shall remain in-place to ensure program compliance.
 - o Additional clerical and administrative support are strongly recommended.
- Ongoing outreach via fire camps and community events is recommended for continued diversifications efforts.

El Camino College is a Southern California leader in the training and development of fire service professionals, recruiting from local high schools to generate and maintain career interest in young adults and underrepresented communities. The College has an energetic and intensive approach to program enhancement with a strong focus on diversifying student populations while maintaining an unwavering adherence to standardization. The College boasts an exemplary retention and success rate among students, making it a noteworthy training destination. El Camino College staff and students recognize the importance of fostering cooperative relationships and interagency partnerships. The students and staff are eager participants in the State Fire Training system, seeking opportunities maintain communication with SFT regarding instructional delivery, academy enhancement, and instructor development. Great pride and effort are shown by the training staff in their curriculum delivery and program maintenance with great attention

given to student success. El Camino College possesses a strong and devotion to student development through innovative and progressive training. All participants, staff and students alike, adhere to the strong morals, values, and ethics that have served as the foundation of this model fire service training program.

State Fire Training recommends continued recognition of El Camino College as an Accredited Regional Training Program in the State Fire Training system for a Reaccreditation period of five (5) years.