

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

STATE FIRE TRAINING

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Date: October 10, 2025

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:

South Bay Regional Consortium Accredited Regional Training Program (ARTP) Reaccreditation

Recommended Actions:

Recommend South Bay Regional Consortium remain an Accredited Regional Training Program (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 13, 2025, at the South Bay Regional Consortium, Gavilan Campus, in San Jose, CA. The Site Evaluation was conducted by Deputy State Fire Marshal III (Specialist) Caryn Petty, State Fire Training, with Fire & EMS Program Manager Jeff Barton, Academy Director Stewart Roth, and Academy Coordinator Paul Gonzalez serving as site hosts and representatives.

The South Bay Regional Consortium 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 an opportunity to review training course records and equipment complement.

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. South Bay Regional Consortium utilizes the Fire Fighter (current) curriculum, and all sites possess the necessary materials for successful Certification Examination delivery. The training grounds exhibit appropriate California Fire Code-compliant classrooms equipped with enhanced audio/visual equipment and necessary learning aids. All academy cadets and recruits are provided with sufficient study materials, devices, and equipment

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for applicable success within the academy training. Several Registered Instructors and Evaluators participate in the academy and Certification Exam delivery making the program self-sustaining and the College 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 California Fire Technology Director Association's meetings is recommended to continue fostering the growing relationships in the region for enhanced networking and partnership opportunities.
- Per the numerous regional partnerships and varied usage of the shared sites, improved equipment usage and live-fire burn logs shall be established and maintained in accordance with SFT and NFPA requirements. Procurement of live-fire training and extrication props and equipment is strongly recommended to ensure program safety and longevity.
- Given the breadth and scope of the regional engagement of the program, SFT strongly recommends participation and designation of a Fire Director on the College Board of Directors.
- The program may benefit from utilization of Distance Education delivery of SFT courses while garnering students from throughout the State. As an ARTP, this is an available option.
- The program shall continue to explore outreach and recruitment opportunities for expanded diversification of the instructor cadre roster. Ongoing outreach via fire camps and community events is recommended for continued diversifications efforts.

The Consortium provides a diverse student population with an affordable, robust, and well-rounded training program, bolstered by active recruitment and outreach efforts. The ARTP provides an array of State Fire Training courses and unique training opportunities, with various technical rescue and specialized courses being delivered throughout the region via partnerships. Current staff are eager participants in the State Fire Training system, maintaining excellent working relations with SFT on many levels including instructional delivery, advisory committee participation, academy enhancement, and instructor development. South Bay Regional Consortium possesses an unwavering devotion to complete student development, serving students and fire service professionals, alike.

SFT recommends continued recognition of South Bay Regional Consortium as an Accredited Regional Training Program for a Reaccreditation period of five (5) years.