



DEPARTMENT OF FORESTRY AND FIRE PROTECTION
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Date: January 8, 2021

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

From: Caryn Petty, Deputy State Fire Marshal
State Fire Training

Subject/Agenda Action Item:

South Bay Regional Community College Fire Science Program Accredited Regional Training Program (ARTP) Re-Accreditation

Recommended Actions:

Recommend South Bay Regional Community College Fire Science Program remain an Accredited Regional Training Program (ARTP) in the State Fire Training (SFT) system for the Re-Accreditation period of five (5) years.

Background Information:

A Re-Accreditation Site Evaluation was conducted on September 25, 2020, at the South Bay Regional Community College Fire Science Program training facility located at 560 Bailey Avenue in San Jose, California. The Evaluation was conducted by Supervising Deputy State Fire Marshal Chris Fowler and Deputy State Fire Marshal Caryn Petty, State Fire Training, with Program Director Gabe Santos and Academy Coordinator Paul Gonzalez present throughout. An orientation meeting further included Consortium President/CEO Linda Vaughn, Fire Program Coordinator Jeff Barton, and Fire Program Staff Assistant Nicole Lara.

A review of the ARTP's Self-Assessment Report (SAR) was 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:

A tour of the training facilities indicated sufficient classroom space with a fully functioning training tower complete with all necessary props, tools, equipment, and vehicles to accommodate a fire academy training program as supplemented by satellite and partnered training sites and locations. South Bay Regional Community College Fire Science Program has successfully transitioned to the Fire Fighter (2019) curriculum and possesses all necessary materials for continued certification testing.

The host and partnered training facilities (San Jose FD, Milpitas FD, and Spring Valley FD) present appropriate academy classrooms equipped with enhanced audio/visual equipment and necessary learning aids. Academy recruits are provided sufficient study materials and equipment for applicable success within the Academy training. Several Registered Instructors participate in the Academy delivery and the College will be expanding its hosting of additional State Fire Training courses in conjunction with cooperating and neighboring agencies.

The College 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 flourishing 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 Community College Fire Science Program possesses an unwavering devotion to complete student development, serving students and fire service professionals, alike. The unique training opportunities, student and instructor diversification, and program innovation makes it a standout leader in the California fire service training and education program and as an ARTP. It is recommended that South Bay Regional Community College Fire Science Program continue to be designated as an Accredited Regional Training Program in the State Fire Training system for a Re-Accreditation period of five (5) years.