



**OFFICE OF THE STATE FIRE MARSHAL  
STATEWIDE TRAINING AND EDUCATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE  
DEPARTMENT OF FORESTRY AND FIRE PROTECTION**

PO Box 944246  
Sacramento, CA 94244-2460  
Phone: (916) 445-8444  
Website: [www.fire.ca.gov](http://www.fire.ca.gov)



**Date:** July 18, 2014

Attachment 4

**To:** Ronny J. Coleman, Chairman  
Statewide Training and Education Advisory Committee  
c/o State Fire Training

**From:** Rodney Slaughter, Deputy State Fire Marshal III

**Subject/Agenda Action Item:** El Camino College Reaccreditation

**Recommended Actions:**

The accreditation site team recommends that El Camino College becomes reaccredited as an Accredited Regional Training Program (ARTP) in the State Fire Training (SFT) System.

**Background Information:**

The site team consisted of Sam Hoffman, STEAC Representative, Tracy Rickman, Fire Technology Director, Darren Palacios, Local Fire Academy Representative and Rodney Slaughter, SFT.

El Camino College provides Career Technical and Vocational Education and fills the educational need for the South Bay Area of Los Angeles. The campus has the support of the college administration and the local area fire service. The campus offers CFSTES, FSTEP, CICCS along with the core fire science curriculum and classes. The fire academy staff is very familiar with SFT business processes and procedures and they are very mindful of the changes occurring in the system.

**Analysis/Summary of Issue:**

The site team met with Bill Melendez, Fire Technology Coordinator and members of the instructional staff along with college administrators. The site team was introduced to the college's administration Dr. Francisco Arce, Vice President Academic Affairs and Stephanie Rodriguez, Dean of Industry & Technology. The site team asked questions regarding the viability of the Fire Technology program and Fire Academy. The team was impressed with the commitment the administration has to the Fire Academy/Technology program.

The team toured the training facility owned and operated by the campus located at El Camino Fire Academy at 206 W. Beach Ave. Inglewood Calif. 90203. The facility has a training tower, adequate PPE, props, tools, equipment, and expendable supplies to adequately and effectively deliver a Firefighter 1 Academy. The classrooms were adequate for program purposes as well.

Best Practices employed at El Camino College Fire Academy, is the low 8:1 student/instructor ratio and the fact that they have a very low turnover of instructional staff. El Camino College is a firmly established program that has strong ties with the local oil industry. The relationship allows for great live fire training experiences for students and supplies well qualified candidates to both the industry fire brigades and surrounding fire departments.

The site team was unequivocal about El Camino College continuing as an ARTP.