



**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
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Date: January 22, 2016

Attachment 1

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

From: Michael A. Garcia, Deputy State Fire Marshal III

Subject/Agenda Action Item: Allan Hancock College (AHC)
Accredited Regional Training Program (ARTP) Reaccreditation

Recommended Actions: Recommend that Allan Hancock College continue as an ARTP in the State Fire Training (SFT) System.

Background Information:

A reaccreditation site visit was conducted on December 10, 2015 at the Allan Hancock College Fire Academy located in northern Santa Barbara County but also serves San Luis Obispo County as well. The reaccreditation evaluation was conducted by Michael A. Garcia, Deputy State Fire Marshal-State Fire Training, Douglas Dickson Interim Director Fire/Safety and EMS Education, Andy Dinsmore Academy Coordinator, Amy Romberger Coordinator-Extended Campus and Rick Rantz Dean the Extended Campus. After initial introductions and a review of the self-assessment report and attached "evidence information", a tour of the classrooms and training facilities was conducted along with an opportunity to review course records.

At the time of the assessment, several academy cadets were briefly interviewed.

In 1997, the AHC Fire Academy was accredited as an ARTP in the SFT system. This is its first reaccreditation, AHC continues to provide a fire academy as well as pre-service and-in service training for Santa Barbara and San Luis Obispo counties.

Analysis/Summary of Issue:

A tour of the training facilities, located at AHC indicated sufficient classroom space with a fully functioning training tower. This facility is state of the art, and is part of a 68 acre combined law/fire/ems training facility.

The AHC Academy has enough tools, equipment and staff, to conduct a Firefighter I Academy at the current location. Local demographics are consistent with the most recent census and information provided by AHC.

AHC like many Fire Academies indicates a low enrollment for under-represented groups based upon local populations, especially with regard to females. AHC does attempt to recruit students identified in their

diversity report, and attends various job fairs, open houses with literature (handouts) to engage the local area schools, in the search for additional diversity for the Academy program. AHC is aware of changes in the Fire Fighter I curriculum and testing process about to be implemented statewide in the near future.

I was very impressed with the support of local agencies and the College administration for continued operation of the program. The AHC is aware of needs of the program and has indicated support in filling critical positions and realignment where needed.

I am confident that the AHC Academy will continue to meet SFT requirements, and recommend approval of the AHC continuing as an ARTP.



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Date: January 22, 2016

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

From: Michael A. Garcia, Deputy State Fire Marshal III

Subject/Agenda Action Item: Miramar Community College
Accredited Regional Training Program (ARTP) Reaccreditation

Recommended Actions: Recommend that Miramar Community College (MCC) continue as an ARTP in the State Fire Training (SFT) System.

Background Information:

A reaccreditation site visit was conducted on September 29, 2015 at the Miramar College Academy located in central San Diego County. The reaccreditation evaluation was conducted by Michael A. Garcia, Deputy State Fire Marshal-State Fire Training, Darren Hall Academy Director, and Dave Miller Director of Training for Heartland Fire Training Center. After initial introductions and a review of the self-assessment report, a tour of the classrooms and training facilities was conducted along with an opportunity to review course records.

At the time of the assessment, academy cadets were briefly interviewed.

In December 2010, the MCC Fire Academy was accredited as an ARTP in the SFT system. This is the first reaccreditation, and MCC continues to provide a fire academy (in cooperation with Heartland and San Diego Fire Rescue) as well as pre-service training for the central portion of San Diego County. This academy does not compete with other ARTP's with the closest being Palomar College (ARTP) and San Pasqual Reservation Fire Department (ALA).

During the exit interview, I was able to meet with George Beitey Dean of Public Safety, to discuss and review SFT findings. A second meeting with College administration was held on December 3, 2015 with Interim Vice President of Instruction Paulette Hopkins, and Battalion Chief Greg Belk (CALFIRE-MVU Unit) to discuss continued support of the program.

Analysis/Summary of Issue:

A tour of the training facilities, located at MCC, and at the Heartland Training Center indicated sufficient classroom space with a fully functioning training tower. There is a written agreement between MCC, Heartland Training and San Diego Fire and Rescue, for facility use. Although Miramar does have a new multi-million dollar training facility on campus, it is not currently used for delivery of a Fire fighter Academy.

The MCC Academy has enough tools, equipment and staff (located at Heartland), to conduct a Fire Fighter I Academy between the two teaching locations. Local demographics are consistent with the most recent census and information provided by MCC.

MCC like many Fire Academies indicates a low enrollment for under-represented groups based upon local populations, especially with regard to females (as was noted in the 2010 assessment). MCC does attempt to recruit students identified in their diversity report, and attends various job fairs, open houses and with literature (handouts) to engage the local area schools, in the search for additional diversity for the Academy program.

As identified within the Self-Assessment report (page 14), there is a need for continued support from the College administration with regard to staffing (release time) for the Academy program, and an ongoing request for clerical support. SFT is concerned that an adequate level of support be provided to ensure a level of service, especially with the potential increase in documentation needed for the upcoming Fire Fighter I Academy (2013). With considerable change in testing and evaluation of students, SFT seeks assurance that MCC will continue to support the program.

I am confident that the MCC Academy will continue to make strides in meeting and maintaining SFT requirements, and recommend approval of Miramar Community College-Fire Academy, continuing as an ARTP.



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Date: January 22, 2016

To: Ronny J. Coleman, Chairman
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From: Michael A. Garcia, Deputy State Fire Marshal III

Subject/Agenda Action Item: Palomar College
Accredited Regional Training Program (ARTP) Reaccreditation

Recommended Actions: Recommend that the Palomar College continue as an ARTP in the State Fire Training (SFT) System.

Background Information:

A reaccreditation site visit was conducted on September 30, 2015 at the Palomar College Fire Academy located in the City of San Marcos, San Diego County. The reaccreditation evaluation was conducted by Michael A. Garcia, Deputy State Fire Marshal-State Fire Training, with Dan Barron, Ed Sprague Academy Coordinator and Brett Van Wey, Fire Chief of City of San Marcos, and former Academy director. After initial introductions and a review of the self-assessment report, a tour of the classrooms and training facilities was conducted along with an opportunity to review course records.

In 2008, Palomar College was accredited as an ARTP in the SFT system. This is its first reaccreditation; Palomar College continues to provide a fire academy as well as in-service training for the north zone of San Diego County. Palomar does compete with other accredited academies, the closest is the academy located at San Pasqual Reservation Fire Department (ALA); San Pasqual has indicated that they do not object to Palomar College.

During the exit interview, I was able to meet with Mr. Dan Sourbeer Interim Assistant Superintendent/Vice President of Instruction and Mr. Paul Kelly Interim Dean, Career Technical and Extended Education, to review and discuss SFT findings.

Analysis/Summary of Issue:

A tour of the training facilities, located at the combined fire and public safety site located at 184 Santar Place, San Marcos, CA., revealed adequate classrooms, tools and equipment to deliver a Fire Fighter I Certified Academy .

The Palomar College ARTP enjoys a great relationship with local fire agencies as evident by the number of students attending this academy. Additional support comes from surrounding fire agencies including the Cities of San Marcos, Carlsbad, Oceanside, Escondido and CalFire to name a few. Local fire departments

support Fire Fighter I academy delivery by providing resources (fully equipped fire engines from secondary response service) and staff when engine company based operations are taking place.

Local demographics are consistent with the most recent census, Palomar ARTP actively participates in recruiting under represented students and female candidates from local colleges, high schools and three regional occupation programs (ROP's) from the surrounding areas, for their program.

Instructor demographics are typical of most ARTP's and ALA's, with the majority being white males. There is effort to recruit a more diverse cadre of instructional staff.

Palomar College staff have identified issues with insufficient staffing (clerical and supervisory) to meet changes in SFT Fire Fighter I (2013) requirements. This is of particular concern to SFT. During the exit interview, college administrative staff indicated continued support of the program and will make every effort to meet the needs of this program.

I am confident that the Palomar College fire academy/ARTP will continue to make strides in maintaining SFT requirements, and recommend approval of the Palomar College Fire Fighter I academy, continuing as an ARTP.



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To: Ronny J. Coleman, Chairman
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From: Michael A. Garcia, Deputy State Fire Marshal III

Subject/Agenda Action Item: Los Angeles County Fire Department (LACFD)
Accredited Local Academy (ALA) Reaccreditation

Recommended Actions: Recommend that the Los Angeles County Fire Department continue as an ALA in the State Fire Training (SFT) System.

Background Information:

A reaccreditation site visit was conducted on November 24, 2015, at the East County Training Facility located in Pomona, California. The reaccreditation evaluation was conducted by Michael A. Garcia, Deputy State Fire Marshal-State Fire Training, Fire Captain Buzzario, ALA Coordinator, with Fire Captain Frescas and Battalion Chief Errett also in attendance. After initial introductions and a review of the self-assessment report, review of course records was conducted.

In 2008, the LACFD was accredited as an ALA in the SFT system. This is the first reaccreditation, and LACFD continues to provide a new-hire fire recruit academy.

LACFD staff are aware of the upcoming changes to the Fire Fighter I curricula, and are working on a implementation plan for certification testing (written and skills) once SFT has fully implemented the IFSAC/Pro Board testing program.

Analysis/Summary of Issue:

A tour of the training facilities, located at East County Training, revealed adequate classroom space with several state of the art classrooms and fully functioning drill tower. I was also able to interview several academy students directly.

The LACFD has enough tools, equipment and staffing, to conduct a Fire Fighter I Academy.

Local demographics are consistent with the most recent census and hiring data. The LACFD actively participates in recruiting under represented students and female candidates from local colleges and high schools for the program, and is about to fund a "recruitment unit" within the department (\$600,000).

I am confident that the LACFD will continue to meet SFT requirements, and I fully recommend approval of the LACFD continuing as an ALA.