

**DEPARTMENT OF FORESTRY AND FIRE PROTECTION**  
**STATE BOARD OF FIRE SERVICES**

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**Date: January 3, 2013****To:** State Board of Fire Services**From:** Rodney Slaughter, Deputy State Fire Marshal**Subject/Agenda Action Item:** Re-Accreditation of American River College**Recommended Actions:**

Staff recommends that the SBFS approve American River College for re-accreditation as an Accredited Regional Training Program. This recommended action was approved by STEAC on April 20, 2012.

**Background Information:**

An accreditation site team was assembled consisting of Charley Hurley, Chief (STEAC Member) Oroville Fire Department; Leona Allen, Fire Technology Coordinator Lake Tahoe Community College; and State Fire Training staff, Rodney Slaughter, DSFM and Brandon Erickson, MST. The accreditation site team visited the Academy in progress at 7641 Greenback Lane, Citrus Heights, CA. State Fire Training Staff then visited the ARC Public Safety Center at 5146 Arnold Ave, McClellan, CA and the California Fire Rescue Authority (CFRA) at 3012 Gold Canal Drive Rancho Cordova, CA. In the course of these visits the Site team met with:

Al Iannone, Fire Technology Coordinator American River College  
Maury Johnson Training Academy Coordinator  
Jim Thomason, Dean of Outreach Training  
Sherri Martucci, California Fire & Rescue Training Authority Coordinator

The site team was taken on a tour of the training center facilities, owned and operated by Sacramento Metropolitan Fire Department. The team observed an academy class performing a variety of hose drills and instruction. The site team was given an opportunity to address the academy cadets and ask and answer training-related questions. The training center has an adequate number of materials, tools and equipment to support the staff and students.

State Fire Training staff then visited the Public Safety Center of the campus at McClellan Park and toured the facilities there. Classrooms and library resources were also adequate. The Dean of Outreach Training is very supportive of the fire academy and fire technology programs. There is a Joint Powers Authority between Sacramento Metropolitan Fire

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District, Sacramento Fire Department, CAL EMA, and the California Fire & Rescue Training Authority. American River College has an instructional services agreement with the JPA. This agreement provides many opportunities for ARC in terms of training delivery options.

**Analysis/Summary of Issue:**

There were several areas in which this academy excelled. The Fire Academy's use of technology to store student data and records on the cloud was seen as an appropriate use of technology. Students and staff can store and retrieve secured data seamlessly from the "cloud." The training partnership that ARC has with CFRA is unusual but allows the college to maintain a level of course offerings that they could not sustain through the college itself.

The CFRA is a quasi-government agency that has the ability to embrace current technology like social media to promote course offerings, the use of survey monkey for student feedback at the end of a class, and the students can do their own background checks for a nominal fee.

The accreditation team found that the training facilities, classrooms, apparatus, tools and equipment adequately meet the needs for the faculty and students. The site accreditation team and the Statewide Training and Education Advisory Committee (STEAC) both recommend that American River College become re-accredited within the State Fire Training system.