



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

P.O. Box 944246
SACRAMENTO, CA 94244-2460
(916) 445-8200
Website: www.fire.ca.gov



ATTACHMENT 2

Date: May 22, 2014

To: State Board of Fire Services

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

SUBJECT/AGENDA ACTION ITEM:

Approval of Fresno City College Accreditation

Recommended Actions:

Discussion/Action

Seeking approval for accreditation of Bakersfield College as an Accredited Regional Training Program

Background Information:

During the Statewide Training and Education Advisory Committee (STEAC) February 28, 2014 meeting, the committee approved Bakersfield College for reaccreditation as an Accredited Regional Training Program.

On February 11, 2014, State Fire Training conducted an accreditation site visit. The site team consisted Corey Rose, STEAC Representative, Tim Capehart, Community College Representative, Mike Garcia and Rodney Slaughter as the State Fire Training Representatives.

For several decades Fresno City College has served the training needs for the fire service agencies in the Central Valley. Fresno City College provides vocational education and does not intrude upon or compete with other accredited college programs. The campus has the support of the administration and the local area fire chiefs. The campus offers both California Fire Service Training and Education System (CFSTES) and Fire Service Training and Education Program (FSTEP) classes. The fire academy staff is very familiar with State Fire Training business processes and procedures. And is very mindful of the changes occurring in the system.

Analysis/Summary of Issue:

The site team met with Gordon Moncibias, Fire Technology Coordinator and Edward Rogers, Fire Academy Coordinator along with Dr. Natalie Culver Dockins, Dean of Workforce Development at the Fresno City College Vocational Education Center. The Fire Technology managers both have an extensive history within the California Fire Service.

The site team met with the college President Tony Cantu, and Dr. Timothy Woods, Vice President at the main Fresno City College campus. The college administration is very committed to the Fire Academy and Fire Technology programs at Fresno City College. A tour of the main Fresno City College campus allowed the identification of abundant instructional resources for teaching staff and students alike. These resources include computer labs and a peer-to-peer tutoring center.

The team then toured the Fresno City Fire Department's Training Center. Christine Boozer, Fresno Fire Training Chief and a member of the Fresno City College Training Advisory Committee, along with several members of the Fresno Fire Department provided an overview of the Fresno City's involvement and commitment with the Fire academy. This included providing registered SFT instructors, tools equipment, and training props.

The Accreditation Team met with Chief Mike Despain, also a member of the Fresno City College Training Advisory Committee and a number of his staff who are also instructors for Fresno City College Fire Academy at the Clovis Fire Training Center. Once again an adequate amount of training resources; tools, equipment, apparatus, and props are available for the use of the fire academy cadets. The meeting minutes from the Fresno City College Training Advisory Committee demonstrates the commitment local area fire departments have for the Fire Academy. Advisory members can make recommendations and provides input on the type and number of classes offered through the college. And they use tis forum to share resources.

The site team noted that at every location, the discussion of diversity and recruitment of under-represented populations was discussed. It appears that employment opportunities are opening up within the industry. Recruitment strategies were shared between site members, college administration and local area fire departments.

The site team did not note any deficiencies on the tour of the campus or the training centers. The program has an adequate amount of tools, equipment, and props to adequately serve the students and the staff. The site team unanimously agreed that Fresno City College meets all the State Fire Training criteria to become an Accredited Regional Training Program (ARTP).