



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

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ATTACHEMENT 2

Date: August 21, 2014

To: **State Board of Fire Services**

From: Rodney Slaughter, Deputy State Fire Marshal Specialist III

SUBJECT/AGENDA ACTION ITEM:

Approval of El Camino College Reaccreditation

Recommended Actions:

Discussion/Approval request

Seeking SBFS approval for reaccreditation of El Camino College as an Accredited Regional Training Program

Background Information:

At the July 18, 2014 meeting the Statewide Training and Education Advisory Committee (STEAC) approved El Camino College for reaccreditation as an Accredited Regional Training Program (ARTP).

On April 22, 2014 State Fire Training (SFT) conducted a site visit at El Camino College. The site team consisted of Sam Hoffman, STEAC Representative; Tracy Rickman, Fire Technology Director; Darren Palacios, Local Fire Academy Representative; 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 California Fire Service Training and Education System (CFSTES) courses, Fire Service Training and Education Program (FSTEP) courses, California Incident Command Certification System (CICCS) courses along with the core community college fire technology curriculum and classes. The fire academy staff is very familiar with SFT business processes and procedures. 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 and 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 located at El Camino Fire Academy, 206 W. Beach Avenue, Inglewood CA 90203. The facility has a training tower, adequate personal protective equipment (PPE), props, tools, equipment, and expendable supplies to adequately and effectively deliver a Fire Fighter I Academy. The classrooms were adequate for program purposes as well.

Best Practices employed at El Camino College Fire Academy include the low 8:1 student/instructor ratio. The program has a very low turnover of instructional staff. El Camino College is a firmly established program that has a strong partnership 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.