



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

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ATTACHMENT 3

Date: May 21, 2015

To: State Board of Fire Services

From: Rodney Slaughter, Deputy State Fire Marshal III

SUBJECT/AGENDA ACTION ITEM: Re-Accreditation of Oxnard Community College

Recommended Actions:

Discussion/Action

Seeking SBFS approval for reaccreditation of Oxnard Community College as an Accredited Regional Training Program (ARTP).

Background Information:

At the January 16, 2015 Statewide Training and Education Advisory Committee Meeting meeting, STEAC members approved the recommendation for reaccreditation of Oxnard College. An accreditation site visit was conducted on October 13, 2014 at the Oxnard College Fire Training Center. The site team consisted of Russell Rawls, SBFS; David Senior, California Fire Technology Directors Association (CFTDA); Jamie Hirsch, Mount San Antonio College and Rodney Slaughter from State Fire Training.

In May 1996, Oxnard College became one of the first accredited academies in the State Fire Training (SFT) system. They were re-accredited in April 2002 and continue to provide a fire academy as well as in-service training for Ventura County. State Fire Training classes are open enrollment to keep the variety of training programs offered viable. Oxnard College does not compete with other accredited academies; in that there are no other Accredited Regional Training Programs (ARTP's) serving this specific area.

The site team was given the opportunity to meet with Dr. Richard Duran, President; Dr. Carole Bogue, Vice President and Carmen Guerrero, Dean of Career and Technical Education. The site team also participated in the College's Fire Advisory Committee. After initial introductions and a review of the self-assessment report, the site team was given a tour of the classrooms and training facilities along with an opportunity to review the course records.

The College 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:

A tour of the training facilities, located at the Oxnard Airport, revealed a number of new classroom spaces along with several state of the art classrooms. The simulation classroom and hazardous materials laboratory were both very impressive and demonstrate the capacity this program has to grow.

The college enjoys a great relationship with local fire agencies as evident in the abundance of donated tools and equipment. The college has enough tools and equipment to conduct a Fire Fighter I Academy. The Fire Technology/Academy Advisory Board is comprised of local Fire Chiefs and training officers. The advisory committee was attended by Dr. Richard Duran and is very supportive of the college.

A product of the information age and a growing practice among academies, Oxnard College uses Survey Monkey, to monitor student job placement.

The site team discussed ideas for both recruiting under-represented populations to the fire academy and succession planning for staff and faculty.

The fire academy program lacks a full-time clerical support person relying instead on a full time person working part time on the fire academy business. The college administration recognizes the needs of the program and is already working on a solution.

The site team was unequivocal about Oxnard College continuing as an Accredited Regional Training Program (ARTP).