



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

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Date: August 24, 2017

To: State Board of Fire Services

From: Jim Eastman, Fire Service Training Specialist III, State Fire Training

SUBJECT/AGENDA ACTION ITEM:

Certified Instructor Experience Requirement Change

Recommended Actions:

Seeking Approval of Certified Instructor Experience Requirement Change

Background Information:

In 2014, State Fire Training (SFT) implemented the new curriculum and certification requirements for Instructor I and Instructor II. Each level of certification requires 80 hours of classroom teaching experience which totals 160 hours for both Instructor I and Instructor II.

This was the previous requirement for Fire Instructor I, Training Instructor I and Fire Instructor II, required 80 hours of classroom teaching experience each. With implementation of the new Instructor I, these experience requirements were rolled over to the new certification. This change was approved unanimously by STEAC on July 14, 2017.

Analysis/Summary of Issue:

Currently, Registered Instructors are approved to deliver California Fire Service Training Education System (CFSTES) and/or Fire Service Training Education Program (FSTEP) courses for SFT. Registered instructors are required to document 80 hours of classroom teaching experience. SFT is currently in the process of requiring instructor certification in order to deliver SFT curriculum. It was identified that if 80 hours were required for each level of certification, SFT would be requiring more hours than what was the established requirement for Registered Instructors.

Recommendation:

It is the recommendation that SFT require candidates for Certified Instructor I to complete 40 hours of classroom teaching experience and candidates for Certified Instructor II to complete 40 hours of classroom teaching experience for a total of 80 hours of classroom teaching experience. This would maintain the equivalency between the registered instructors and the new requirements for Instructors I and II. Both levels (Registered and Instructor II) would have matching amount of hours of teaching classroom experience.

It has been identified that there are approximately 80 candidates currently in the system with task books issued under the current requirements. SFT staff would contact these individuals with outstanding task books to advise of the modification of 80-hour requirement to 40-hour requirement, if approved.

It is anticipated that some candidates may have already completed and documented 80 hours of classroom teaching experience within the Training Instructor I or Instructor I. If these candidates proceed with Instructor II certification, there would be no additional classroom teaching experience.

Task books would be updated to reflect this change.