



DEPARTMENT OF FORESTRY AND FIRE PROTECTION
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Date: January 7, 2022

To: Statewide Training and Education Advisory Committee
State Board of Fire Services

From: Caryn Petty, Deputy State Fire Marshal III (Specialist)
State Fire Training

Subject/Agenda Action Item:

Santa Ana College Accredited Regional Training Program (ARTP) Reaccreditation

Recommended Actions:

Recommend Santa Ana College be provided Accredited Regional Training Program (ARTP) Reaccreditation in the State Fire Training (SFT) system for a period of five (5) years.

Background Information:

A Reaccreditation Site Evaluation was conducted on November 29, 2021, at the Santa Ana College (SAC) training facility at 18301 Gothard Street in Huntington Beach, CA. The accreditation visit was conducted by Deputy State Fire Marshal III (Specialist) Caryn Petty, State Fire Training. Introductions were facilitated by Fire Technology Department Associate Dean William Reardon which included Human Services and Technology Services Dean Larisa Sergeyeva; Director of Fire Instruction Fred Ramsey; Battalion Chief Justin Fleming, Huntington Beach Fire Department; Captain Sean Haynes, Huntington Beach Fire Department; Battalion Chief Karen Rindone, Long Beach Fire Department; Professor Jennifer Meloni; Professor Suzanne Freeman; and Assistant Professor Daniel Higuera.

The College's Self-Assessment Report (SAR) was reviewed and discussed, with requirements for supplemental documentation noted. Said documentation has since been received and has met the requirements as set forth by State Fire Training policies and procedures. The review of the SAR was followed by a tour of all classrooms and training facilities with opportunity to assess training course records and equipment complement.

"The Department of Forestry and Fire Protection serves and safeguards the people and protects the property and resources of California."

Analysis/Summary of Issue:

A tour of the training facilities indicated sufficient classroom space with a fully functioning and compliant training tower complete with all necessary props, tools, equipment, and vehicles to accommodate a fire academy training program. Santa Ana College utilizes the Fire Fighter (2019) curriculum and possesses all necessary materials for successful Certification Examination delivery.

The Santa Ana College campus exhibits an appropriate California Fire Code-compliant classroom equipped with enhanced audio/visual equipment and necessary learning aids. All Academy recruits will be provided sufficient study materials, devices, and equipment for applicable success within the Academy training. Several Registered Instructors will participate in the Academy delivery with members from regional partners complementing the need for Instructors and Evaluators.

Area(s) of focus for growth and improvement:

- Although the program has sufficient staff, the current staffing is at its capacity having tasked existing staff with excessive workloads beyond the Academy delivery that would be offset with additional resources and personnel. There is an identified need for additional clerical personnel to lessen the workload of staff and ensure the thorough delivery of the Academy instruction free of peripheral assignments, tasks, and duties.
- Continued Fire Advisory Committee/Board meetings are recommended to continue fostering the growing relationships in the region. This Committee should include varied members from the region for enhanced networking and partnership opportunities.
- Improved locker rooms, shower facilities, decontamination stations, and extractors will serve to accommodate a safe and healthy learning environment. It is recommended that procurement of additional facilities be explored to ensure student safety.

Since 1967, Santa Ana College has maintained steady and robust Fire Science Technology Certification and Associate of Science degree programs. SAC has been an active ARTP since the SFT program inception, delivering well-rounded entry-level and regional training opportunities. The College is a statewide ARTP leader, continually demonstrating cooperative partnership facilitation and innovation. SAC continues to provide career advancement training, higher education preparation, skills maintenance, and a focus on wellness for first responders. Santa Ana College proactively builds cooperative relationships founded on producing strong, well-rounded fire service professionals.

State Fire Training recommends continued recognition of the Santa Ana College as an Accredited Regional Training Program in the State Fire Training system for a Reaccreditation period of five (5) years.