



DEPARTMENT OF FORESTRY AND FIRE PROTECTION
OFFICE OF THE STATE FIRE MARSHAL
State Fire Training Division
P.O. Box 944246
SACRAMENTO, CA 94244-2460
(916) 568-2911
Website: www.fire.ca.gov



Date: July 10, 2020

Attachment 2

To: John Binaski, Chairman
Statewide Training and Education Advisory Committee
c/o State Fire Training

From: Caryn Petty, Deputy State Fire Marshal
State Fire Training

Subject/Agenda Action Item:

College of the Siskiyous Accredited Regional Training Program (ARTP) Reaccreditation

Recommended Actions:

Recommend College of the Siskiyous remain an Accredited Regional Training Program (ARTP) in the State Fire Training (SFT) system for the Reaccreditation period of five (5) years.

Background Information:

A Reaccreditation Site Evaluation was conducted on May 19, 2020, at the College of the Siskiyous located at 800 College Avenue in Weed, California. The Evaluation was conducted by Deputy State Fire Marshal Caryn Petty, State Fire Training, with Fire Technology Program Director Mike Wilson present throughout.

A review of the College's Self-Assessment Report (SAR) was 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 an evaluation of all classrooms and training facilities with opportunity to review training course records and equipment compliment.

Analysis/Summary:

A tour of the training facilities indicated sufficient classroom space with a fully functioning training tower complete with all necessary props, tools, equipment, and vehicles to accommodate a fire academy training program as supplemented by satellite and partnered training sites and locations. College of the Siskiyous has successfully transitioned to the Fire Fighter 1 (2019) curriculum and possesses all necessary materials for continued certification testing.

The training facility presents appropriate academy classrooms equipped with enhanced audio/visual equipment and necessary learning aids. Academy recruits are provided sufficient study materials and equipment for applicable success within the Academy training. Several Registered Instructors participate in the Academy delivery and the College will be expanding its hosting of additional State Fire Training courses in conjunction with cooperating and neighboring agencies.

College of the Siskiyous maintains healthy relationships with regional agencies and associated partners, having resulted in continued acquisition of apparatus, equipment, and PPE for Academy use. Funding from the leasing of front-line apparatus to local fire agencies will go toward development and construction of an apparatus bay and storage facility at the College. Foundation has been laid for the construction of additional training structures on the College campus, with survey and soil tests now complete. Estimated construction to begin in Fall 2020. New burn connexes have been procured and will be positioned and implemented at that time.

The current staffing is at its capacity with staff working well beyond the typical work schedule and hours. This condition has tasked existing staff with excessive workloads beyond the Academy delivery that would be offset with additional resources and personnel. The College has identified a specific need for additional faculty staff members and clerical personnel to lessen the workload of existing staff and ensure the thorough delivery of the Academy free of peripheral assignments, tasks, and duties.

College of the Siskiyous serves a unique region of the State, providing affordable, robust, and well-rounded training programs to entry-level, volunteer, and career fire service personnel. The College provides an array of State Fire Training courses to an underserved region in Northern California, with various technical rescue and specialized courses being delivered. The students and staff are eager participants in the State Fire Training, maintaining excellent working relations with SFT on many levels including instructional delivery, advisory committee participation, academy enhancement, and instructor development.

College of the Siskiyous possesses an unwavering devotion to complete student development. The unique training opportunities, student and instructor diversification, and program innovation makes it a standout leader in the California fire service training and education program and as an ARTP. It is recommended that College of the Siskiyous continue to be designated as an Accredited Regional Training Program in the State Fire Training system for a Reaccreditation period of five (5) years.