



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

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**Date:** July 14, 2023

**To:** Statewide Training and Education Advisory Committee  
c/o State Fire Training

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

**Subject/Agenda Action Item:**

American River College Accredited Regional Training Program (ARTP) Reaccreditation

**Recommended Actions:**

Recommend American River College (ARC) be provided Accredited Regional Training Program (ARTP) Reaccreditation in the State Fire Training (SFT) system for a period of four-and-a-half years.

**Background Information:**

A Reaccreditation Site Evaluation was conducted on June 6, 2023, at the American River College campus at 9054 Dean Street in McClellan Park, CA. The accreditation visit was conducted by Deputy State Fire Marshal III (Specialist) Caryn Petty, State Fire Training. ARC attendees included Interim Fire Tech Coordinator Ken Kwong and Academy Logistics/Drill Instructor Shai Bresh. Attending remotely was Fire Tech Coordinator Tim Adams.

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 the training facilities with opportunity to assess training course records and equipment complement.

**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. The College utilizes the Fire Fighter (2019) curriculum and possesses all necessary materials for successful and complete Certification Examination delivery.

The College campus exhibits appropriate California Fire Code-compliant classrooms equipped with enhanced audio/visual equipment and necessary learning aids. All Academy recruits are provided

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sufficient study materials, devices, and equipment for applicable success within the Academy training. Several Registered Instructors participate in the Academy delivery with members from regional partners complementing the need for Registered Instructors and Evaluators.

Area(s) of focus for growth and improvement:

- 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.
- The current staffing is at its capacity with workloads beyond the Academy delivery that would be offset with additional resources and personnel. The College has identified a specific need for additional personnel to lessen the workload of existing staff and ensure the thorough delivery of the Academy free of peripheral assignments, tasks, and duties.
- Improved locker rooms, shower facilities, decontamination stations, and multiple 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.

American River College serves a uniquely diverse student population, with many under-represented demographics participating in the Academy. The College maintains a dedication to providing a strong fire training program to the communities it occupies, focusing on outreach efforts to reach underserved populations, student and staff recruitment, and cooperation with neighboring agencies and training programs.

In accordance with the California Code of Regulations, Title 19, and the *SFT Procedures Manual (2019)*, Accreditation Process, Section 3.1.6(E), a six-month Accreditation Extension was granted to ensure program stabilization while working toward sustainability. All requirements set forth by State Fire Training have been satisfied for Reaccreditation and there has been no lapse in accreditation.

State Fire Training recommends continued recognition of the American River College as an Accredited Regional Training Program in the State Fire Training system for a Reaccreditation period of four-and-a-half years.