



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: January 8, 2021

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

From: Chris Fowler, Deputy State Fire Marshal III, Supervisor

SUBJECT/AGENDA ACTION ITEM:

Skills Coach Recommended Ratios

Recommended Actions:

Consent

Background Information:

The new Skills Coach position is to assist the Registered Primary Instructor with the Psychomotor skills practice within a CFSTES or FSTEP course. This is a separate classification from Registered Psychomotor Skills Evaluator. The FSTEP or CFSTES course plan will indicate if a skills coach can be used for a course delivery. Additionally, the course plan will indicate the Student to Skills Coach ratio and/or the registered instructor/fire fighter instructor to skills coach ratio.

Analysis/Summary of Issue:

In 2019, SFT proposed the implementation of Skills Coach in three phases. These recommendations have been reviewed by the Steering Committee. The Skills Coach is in addition to the required Registered Instructors and to support curriculum delivery. Skills Coaches are optional, and not a required member of the cadre.

It shall be noted on each Course Plan that a Skills Coach cannot oversee or supervise students during high risk operations. This includes but is not limited to open trench operations, high angle or rope rescue operations, live fire operations, or swift water rescue.

Courses	Recommended Ratios
FF1A FF1B FF1C FF2A Vehicle Extrication	<p><u>Instructor/Student Ratio:</u> Lecture: 1 primary instructor per 50 students</p> <p><u>Demonstrations:</u> 1 primary instructor per 50 students</p> <p><u>Activities/Skills:</u> 2 primary instructors + Enough skills coaches to maintain a 1:5 ratio of skills coach/student ratio</p>

Course	Recommended Ratios
Fire Control 4 (Live Fire) Firefighter Survival Rapid Intervention Crew Operations (RIC)	<p><u>Instructor/Student Ratio:</u> Lecture: 1 primary instructor per 50 students</p> <p><u>Demonstrations:</u> 1 primary instructor per 50 students</p> <p><u>Activities/Skills:</u> 2 primary instructors + Enough primary instructors to maintain a 1:10 primary instructor/skills coach ratio + Enough skills coaches to maintain a 1:5 ratio of skills coach/student ratio</p>

Course	Recommended Ratios
CA-219 (Live Fire)	<p><u>Instructor/Student Ratio:</u> Lecture: 1 primary instructor per 30 students</p> <p><u>Demonstrations:</u> 1 primary instructor per 30 students</p> <p><u>Activities/Skills:</u> 2 primary instructors + Enough primary instructors to maintain a 1:10 primary instructor/skills coach ratio + Enough skills coaches to maintain a 1:5 ratio of skills coach/student ratio</p>

Courses	Recommended Ratios
Rescue Systems Series	<p><u>Instructor/Student Ratio:</u> Lecture: 1 primary instructor per 12 students</p> <p><u>Demonstrations:</u> 1 primary instructor per 12 students</p> <p><u>Activities/Skills:</u> 1 primary instructor + enough primary instructors to maintain a 1:5 primary instructor/skills coach ratio + enough skills coaches to maintain a 1:5 ratio of skills coach/student ratio.</p>

Courses	Recommended Ratios
River Flood Rescue Technician River Flood Rescue Boat Technician	<p><u>Instructor/Student Ratio:</u> Lecture: 1 primary instructor per 24 students</p> <p><u>Demonstrations:</u> 1 primary instructor per 24 students</p> <p><u>Activities/Skills:</u> 1 primary instructor + enough primary instructors to maintain a 1:5 primary instructor/skills coach ratio + enough skills coaches to maintain a 1:5 ratio of skills coach/student ratio.</p>

Courses	Recommended Ratios
Rope Rescue Awareness/Operations Rope Rescue Technician	<p><u>Instructor/Student Ratio:</u> Lecture: 1 primary instructor per 24 students</p> <p><u>Demonstrations:</u> 1 primary instructor per 24 students</p> <p><u>Low Angle Activities/Skills Only:</u> 1 primary instructor + enough primary instructors to maintain a 1:12 primary instructor/skills coach ratio + enough skills coaches to maintain a 1:5 ratio of skills coach/student ratio.</p>