



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

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Date: April 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:

Antelope Valley College Accredited Regional Training Program (ARTP) Initial Accreditation

Recommended Actions:

Recommend Antelope Valley College be provided Accredited Regional Training Program (ARTP) Initial Accreditation in the State Fire Training (SFT) system for a period of three (3) years.

Background Information:

An Initial Accreditation Site Evaluation was conducted on February 28, 2023, at the Antelope Valley College training facility at 3041 West Avenue K in Lancaster, CA. The Accreditation Site Evaluation Team included Deputy State Fire Marshal III (Specialist) Caryn Petty, State Fire Training; Chief Richard Beckman, Rio Hondo College ARTP, representing STEAC; Division Chief Jarrod Clinkenbeard, CAL FIRE (ALA); Battalion Chief Eric Bennett, Orange County Fire Authority (ALA); and Battalion Chief Christiaan Miller, Pasadena Fire Department (ALA). Introductions were facilitated by Academy Coordinator Mark Gilman that included Dean of Career Technical Education Greg Bormann, Associate Dean of Health and Safety Services Dr. Casey Scudmore, and Los Angeles County Fire Department Battalion Chief Jason Gorbani and Captain Pete Adomo.

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 Site Team was provided the revised SAR for remote review prior to the event.

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. Antelope Valley College will utilize the Fire Fighter

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1 (2019) curriculum and possesses all necessary materials for successful Certification Examination delivery.

The Antelope Valley 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. To supplement the College training, the Los Angeles County Fire Department provides live-fire and training facility access at a neighboring location. The College possesses all necessary props, tools, equipment, and vehicles to accommodate a fire academy training program supplemented by satellite and partnered training sites.

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 full-time faculty staff members and clerical personnel to lessen the workload of staff and ensure the thorough delivery of the Academy instruction free of peripheral assignments, tasks, and duties.
- Consistent 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 Antelope College fire technology staff and administration recognize the underserved student populations in the region and have an expressed desire to bridge the regional fire service training and education gap. This focus on providing education for all students is indicative of the training devotion serving as the foundation of the proposed program. The attention to student and instructor diversification and outreach exemplifies the program's devotion fire service progression. Coordination personnel possess an unwavering approach to program development with a strong focus on technologically advanced training for diversified student populations while adhering to the standards set forth by State Fire Training. Antelope Valley College is proactively building cooperative relationships founded on producing strong, well-rounded fire service professionals.

The Site Evaluation Team is unanimous in the recommendation of Antelope Valley College being designated as an Accredited Regional Training Program in the State Fire Training system for an Initial Accreditation period of three (3) years.