

Program Creation Process Sign-Off

Program Title: Fire Science

Program Units: 27 quarter units

Division: Bio/Health Sciences

Proposing Faculty name(s): Dave Huseman

Type of Program: _____ Transfer or _____ XX Workforce

Type of Award:

_____ Non-transcriptable certificate

_____ XX Certificate of Achievement

_____ AA/AS Degree

Documentation checklists:

Transfer documentation

_____ Catalog Description

_____ List of Courses

_____ Articulation & transfer data

_____ Identification of existing program(s) at CSU/UCs

_____ Completer Projections

_____ Identification of any additional resources needed to establish program (i.e. faculty, equipment, etc.)

Workforce documentation

X _____ Catalog Description

X _____ List of Courses

X _____ Completer Projections

X _____ Labor Market information

X _____ Identification of any similar program(s) in the area

X _____ Identification of any additional resources needed to establish program (i.e. faculty, equipment, etc.)


Transfer/Workforce Work Group:

☒ **Recommended**

☐ **Not Recommended**

Comments:

Workforce Workgroup strongly supports. Classes are offered at South Bay Regional Public Safety Training Consortium (SBRPSTC) on Evergreen campus. Foothill is a member of a Joint Powers Agreement (JPA) that permits the unique offering of our courses at the SBRPSTC location while the college collects apportionment for the classes. The group asked for clarification on 300 level classes being used for a certificate of achievement. Follow-up research revealed the courses are approved as degree applicable courses (in CMS). They will be renumbered to 100 courses next year. This certificate should be forwarded for approval this year. This certificate helps students prove their qualification level to employers and is good for our students.

Work Group Signature: X 

Date: July 16, 2015

Supervising Vice President:

☒ **Recommended**

☐ **Not Recommended**

Comments:

Agree w/ above.

Vice President Signature: 

Date:

Planning & Resource Committee:

☒ **Recommended**

☐ **Not Recommended**

Comments:

PaRC Signature:

Date:

Division Curriculum Committee:

☐ **Recommended**

☐ **Not Recommended**

Comments:

Following the review by the listed committees, this form should be forwarded to the Office of Instruction.

10/22/14

Program Creation Process Sign-Off

Division CC Signature:

Date:

Following the review by the listed committees, this form should be forwarded to the Office of Instruction.

10/22/14

Fire Science Certificate Program

Date: 03/03/2015
Department: Workforce Development
Program Title: Fire Science Certificate Program
Program Award: Certificate of Achievement
Program Goal: CTE

Planning Summary

Program TOP Code: 2133.00
Effective Date: 08/2015
Req Certificate Units: 27 Quarter Units
Annual Completers: 30
Net Annual Labor Demand: 100
Estimated Faculty Workload: 2.66
New Faculty Positions: 0
Est. Cost of New Equip: \$0
Cost of New/Remodel Facility: \$0
Library Acquisitions: \$0
Apprenticeship: No
Distance Education: 0%
Gainful Employment: Yes
CTE Regional Consortium Approval:

Reason for Proposal

The Foothill College Fire Science Certificate will develop a student's understanding of the interagency coordination necessary for fire prevention, safe and successful fire-incident command, arson investigation, and life-safety and emergency pre-hospital care. By combining the emergency medical technician and fire fighter 1 curriculum to create a Fire Science Certificate, the program will address the new challenges faced by emergency services personnel and prepare students for employment in the emergency services profession.

Most California Fire Departments require completion of both EMT and Fire Fighter 1 for all new hires.

Program Goals and Objectives

- ❖ Students will demonstrate knowledge of the basic concepts of human anatomy and physiology.
- ❖ Students will recognize and properly treat the nature and seriousness of a patient's condition or extent of injuries.

- ❖ Students will recognize the dangers inherent in the fire environment, and use appropriate personal protective equipment and equipment in order to operate safely as a fire fighter.
- ❖ Students will demonstrate knowledge and skills involving federal and state laws, regulations and codes related to safety and efficiency in all risk emergencies and scenarios pertaining to fire, safety and/or medical services.

Catalog Description

The Fire Science Certificate Program provides a course of study that meets with the minimum requirements for employment as determined by California State Fire Marshal. This program is designed for students who want to take all their work in specialized employment preparatory courses. Upon obtaining a Certificate of Achievement, the student can enter skilled employment or continue additional education toward an Associate degree or transfer to UC and CSU Bachelor Programs.

Program Requirements/Sequence

The Core courses are required for the Certificate:

EMT 304 – Emergency Medical Technician Part A	3 Units
EMT 305 – Emergency Medical Technician Part B	4 Units
JFS 307 – Fire Fighter 1 Academy	20 Units

Total Units	27 Units
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Master Planning

The EMT courses have been articulated as part of Foothill's Paramedic and Health Science programs for many years. Approximately two years ago, the Fire Fighter 1 Academy was added to the CTE program cadre of courses to provide additional, complimentary opportunities to students. The changes in the California State Fire Marshal training requirements and based upon industry standards for employment the sequential courses are a viable and appropriate Certificate Program and continue to support the original Paramedic program. The courses can also be used as acceptable core and elective units within Associate Programs currently offered through Foothill and other community colleges. Establishing the certificate program would be the first step in determining the viability of developing an Associate Degree Program in Fire Science.

Enrollment and Completer Projections

We expect enrollment of 65 students annually with a 75% completer projection.

Place of Program in Curriculum

This Certificate is the primary component of the Fire Science Program within the Workforce Development (CTE) program. Other complimentary programs include the Paramedic Program.

Similar Programs at Other Colleges in Service Area

Mission College offers a Fire Technology Associate Degree and EMT Associate Degree.

Additional Documentation

Labor Market Information

Recent changes in the State Fire Marshal and Emergency Medical Services Administration curriculum creates a void in the Santa Clara and San Benito County areas for certified Fire Science Programs. The new State standards are aligned with National Standards and allow successful students to not only secure employment in the District and California, but almost anywhere in the county.

Over the past ten years Fire Science professionals had experienced a steady decline of employment opportunities. In 2014, the market began to show an increase in employment opportunities with most agencies experiencing annual vacancies, which will need to be filled, between 5% and 15% of their workforce; depending upon the agency. The employment trend is expected to continue for at least 10+ years at a steady pace as agencies are unable to hire back all positions at one time. Additionally, because hiring tends to be somewhat cyclical, agencies are beginning to realize a steady flow of retirements creating a continued need for new employees.

Advisory Committee Recommendation

The Fire Science Program, via South Bay Regional JPA consults with two Advisory Committees. The Advisory Committees are comprised of Fire Chiefs and their representatives within the JPA's region. The Advisory Committees support the alignment of the core Fire Services courses with the college and their students' ability to earn a college certificate through successful completion of the courses. The Advisory Committees supports the formalization of the courses into a Certificate and would like to see the program grow to include the Fire Fighter 2 Academy and Paramedic Series of courses to develop an Associate Degree in the future.

Regional Consortia Approval Meeting Minutes