

## PROGRAM REVIEW Fall 2017

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**Program: Fire Service Technology**

**Division: MSEPS**

**Date: 10/13/2017**

**Writer(s): Ron Johansen**

**SLO/SAO Point-Person: Ron Johansen**

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**Audience:** Deans, Vice Presidents of Student Services and Academic Services, All Planning and Allocation Committees. This document will be available to the public.

**Uses:** This Program Review will be used to inform the campus and community about your program. It will also be used in the processes of creating Division Summaries, determining College Planning Priorities and allocating resources. A final use is to document fulfillment of accreditation requirements.

**Time Frame:** This Program Review should reflect on program status during the 2016-17 academic year. It should describe plans starting now and continuing through 2017-18. This document also provides the opportunity to describe more long-term plans (optional).

**Sections:** The first section of this Program Review focuses on general program reflection and planning. The second section is a review of curriculum. Only programs with curriculum need to complete Section 2. The third section is a CTE update, to be completed by CTE programs only.

**Topics:** A list of topics of particular interest to Program Review readers can be found here:

<https://goo.gl/23jrxt>

**Help:** Contact Karin Spirn: [kspirn@laspositascollege.edu](mailto:kspirn@laspositascollege.edu)

### **Instructions:**

- 1) Please respond to each question as completely as possible.
- 2) If the requested information does not apply to your program, write "Not Applicable."
- 3) Optional: Meet with your dean to review this document before October 13.
- 4) Send an electronic copy of this form to Karin Spirn and your Dean by October 16

### **Links:**

Program Review Home Page: <https://goo.gl/XATqjJ>

Fall 2016 Program Review Updates : <https://goo.gl/YV8QOt>

Frequently Asked Questions: <https://goo.gl/ilhRtt>

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## Section One: Program Snapshot

### A. Data Review: Describe any significant changes to your program's data since last year's Program Review Update (Fall 2016). Yes

Possible sources of relevant information might include, but are not limited to, the following:

- Data generated by your program
- Data from the Office of Institutional Research (<https://goo.gl/WuR9cQ>)
- CEMC Data
- Labor Market Data
- SLO/SAO Data

Since the last Program Review, the CLPCCD Board of Directors has expressed commitments to prioritize and fund a possible new "Public Safety Educational Complex" here at LPC. This has resulted in identifying a renewed commitment of planning for the development of both preparatory concepts and design criteria for a facility of this nature, with the primary purpose of which shall govern the tirade of "Public Safety Programs" (A.J., E.M.S. and F.S.T.). Our goal is to bring clarity and understanding to the myriad of specialized educational facility needs for the "Public Safety Sector" of courses within the three divisions of A.J, E.M.S. and F.S.T. Our goal is to fulfill the concepts of all previous Master Plans. This will include new and more comprehensive information and guidance, resulting in a design and construction of a comprehensive facility of size and scope to meet the ever-increasing demands facing the "Public Safety" disciplines today and in the future. We are also excited to see a possible recognition and renewed commitment to our program here at L.P.C by the District, in which we strive so diligently to meet the motto of our Fire Service Technology Program in "Training Tomorrow's Hero's Today".

Further changes of significance have also occurred within the scope of the "Public Safety Sector" disciplines' with the hiring of a full time, dedicated "Director of Public Safety". This includes also the recent accreditation of our "Paramedic Program" in march of 2016 and the hiring of a full time tenured track "EMS Coordinator".

Student enrollments continue to gain strength with ever-increasing numbers of students attending Las Positas College within the Fire Service Technology Program from outside the District. This is especially true with students attending Las Positas College from throughout the San Joaquin Valley Area. The enrollments are especially strong for the Tracy Area with nearly 50 students attending our program this 2017-2018 Academic Year from over the Altamont. Students today are attending from as far away as Stockton, Salida/Ripon, Manteca/Lathrop and the town of Patterson. The growth of attendance from students in these service areas reflect the fact that the Delta College Fire Technology Program in Stockton shut down several years ago with no anticipation to reinstate the program anytime soon.

### B. Changes to Program and Needs: Describe any significant changes to your program or your program's needs since the previous Program Review Update (Fall 2016).

**Recent actions by the Livermore Pleasanton Fire Department to Create a Contract or Agreement with LPC**

Mark an X next to each area that is addressed in your response.

<p>The Livermore Pleasanton Fire Department which is an approved and recognized ALA (Approved Local Academy) Training site by the State Fire Marshal's Office (State Fire Training) has recently demonstrated a desire to work with Las Positas College to create a partnership in the pursuit of recognized Academy for "Firefighter I" Preparatory Training. This will include necessary testing and evaluation thus allowing a student and /or employee of LPFD to seek certification and college credits leading to a "Certificate of Achievement" and or "Associates Degree" in Fire Service Technology. This is similar to an agreement with the Alameda County Sheriff's Department with Las Positas College regarding "Advanced Officer" Training and the "Police Academy" within the Administration of Justice Discipline. This is the final component of training necessary to fulfill a commitment to students entering the courses in the "Public Safety Sector" Disciplines here at LPC. Recognizing that nearly 80% of all Paid Professional Fire Service Agencies within California require the entry level Firefighter to be a Paramedic, we could provide a comprehensive and robust training program to all students that would include two (FST and EMS) disciplines of completion before they moved on from here. Las Positas College has spent nearly ten years obtaining the necessary infrastructure necessary to provide for a Fire Academy in which there would be no impacts on local agencies. The time has come to fulfill the last obligation to student's by the introduction and development of a comprehensive training facility.</p>	Definitions of terms: <a href="https://goo.gl/23jrxt">https://goo.gl/23jrxt</a>	
	X	Community Partnerships/Outreach
		Curriculum*
		Enrollment Management
		External Factors
	X	Facilities,** Supplies and Equipment (Including Software)
		Financial/Budgetary
		Human Resources
		Learning Support
	X	LPC Planning Priorities <a href="https://goo.gl/LU99m1">https://goo.gl/LU99m1</a>
		Pedagogy
		Professional Development
	X	Services to Students
		SLO/SAO Process
		Technology Use
*Curriculum will also be addressed in Part 2 (Curriculum Review).		
**Facilities will also be addressed in Question H.		

**C. Reflection: What plans from the [2016 Program Review Update](#) or any [previous Program Reviews/Updates](#) have been achieved and how?**

<p>The development of a "Public Safety" combined training facility for "Administration of Justice", "Fire Technology" and "Emergency Medical Services", is necessary for the long term success and viability of these three programs here at Las Positas College. Though these programs currently enjoy maximum enrollments and recognition as top ranked programs within their respective fields in California, they will face significant challenges to maintain this recognition within the vocational education arena if further investment in the development of infrastructure and facilities for a comprehensive "Public Safety Training Facility" is not addressed.</p> <p>There has been a significant increase in the number of private sector vocational schools and colleges developing vocational training programs for "Public Safety" careers. This is especially</p>	Mark an X next to each area that is addressed in your response.	
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		Pedagogy

<p>true in the Fire Technology and Emergency Medical Service disciplines of Public Safety in the East Bay and specifically within the Tri-Valley Area. Since “9-11” these private sector vocational schools and colleges have been aggressively marketing and reaching out to those individuals who desire to pursue a career in “Public Safety”. The number of schools and frequency of courses offered has increased in significant numbers within the past few years as the economy has taken a down turn. Individuals affected by this economic down turn have begun to seek careers in “Public Safety” in greater numbers where long term employment security is more likely than with employment in the private sector.</p> <p>The down side of the availability of these private schools and colleges is the general poor quality and “cookie cutter” mentality of these programs with regards to the number of students and frequency of classes being taught. Great debt is often incurred by individuals who attend these private programs. Yet most will not enjoy the opportunity of employment as promised by these schools. Employers generally recognize the poor preparation and quality of education provided to these candidates, which has made them less than ideal for employment in the “Public Safety” sector.</p> <p>Marketing and aggressive advertisement continues to attract potential “Public Safety” students to these private vocational schools and colleges in large numbers. Many students who have attended “Public Safety” courses provided by these private vocational schools and colleges will often recognize the deficiency of many of these programs and will drop out and enroll in the programs here at Las Positas College. Unfortunately, most of the other students will become disenfranchised and will eventually cease their pursuit for a career in “Public Safety”. It is sad to note that for such a significant investment of time and money, that most of these students will have not be given the opportunity to become truly prepared for employment as would occur through the attendance to a high quality program such as with Las Positas College.</p> <p>Recent legislation has begun to address the concerns with many of these private schools and colleges in which there is a push to place community colleges back into the forefront of “Public Safety” Education. Many Community Colleges have begun to recognize this shift and are in the process of</p>	Professional Development
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	SLO/SAO Process
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expanding and enhancing their current facilities or are beginning the process to develop high quality facilities for the near future in the fields of "Public Safety".

It is with superior education and high quality facilities that together provide for the successful preparation of future members within the "Public Safety Disciplines". Here at Las Positas College, we provide the highest of educational standards in the classroom environment with the experience and quality of our educators that are second-to-none in the Industry. However, it is the inability to provide the highest of standards due to Infrastructure and Facilities restrictions to enhance the learning environment that is missing here at Las Positas College. When compared to the top vocational programs in "Public Safety" at various other community colleges throughout California, these colleges have made a significant investment into the infrastructure and necessary facilities to allow their students to receive the highest of standards in education and specialized training. The significant investment into their "Public Safety" infrastructure and facilities enhances the learning environment to their students, providing realistic and challenging scenarios for developing complex and highly technical skills, which dominate the necessary performance requirements for a career in the "Public Safety Sector". These facilities may provide for a variety of special skill sets for various forms of rescue. Such as dealing with complex hazardous materials mitigation, structural firefighting, emergency vehicle operations, medical and trauma related emergencies, and meeting the preparation of future first responders to respond to unusual and tragic large scale events such as an earthquake or terrorist attack with the deployment of weapons of mass destruction.

Unlike many other vocational programs and academic courses, provided here at Las Positas College, it is important to note, that the "Public Safety" sector of courses provides for the education and preparation of future Police Officers, Firefighters and Paramedics. Their very education and training may require split second decisions and actions that may mean the difference between life and death to themselves and/or to individuals of the community for which they may serve.

It is also important to note that all of the facilities proposed, play an important role in meeting the facilities and

<p>infrastructure requirements as required by the following state agencies for recognition as accredited training sites in the variety of curriculum and academies proposed for delivery in the near future. Currently agreements have been made with surrounding agencies as necessary (but not guaranteed for the long term) for meeting many of the required training props and facility needs necessary for the current delivery of many courses here at Las Positas College in all three disciplines.</p> <p>A commitment to LPC towards a “Public Safety Training Facility” is paramount to the continued success of these programs. The recent passing of the bond and the recent prioritization by the LPC Community to place a high priority to development of the “Public Safety” Training Facility has been realized. It is now the time for the District and the Board to fulfill its commitment to the students and families of the Las Positas College Campus.</p>	
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**D. Impacts to Students (Optional): Discuss at least one example of how students have been impacted by the work of your program since the last Program Review Update (only if you did not already answer this in Questions A, B or C).**

<p>Students are limited in their willingness to attend a training facility in other locations closer to the Bay such as Hayward/Chabot, as many of our students already face significant choke points within their commutes from the San Joaquin Valley across the Altamont Pass and nearly half of the valley floor in the Livermore area on Highway 580. Many have stated the addition of any additional choke points within their commute profile such as across the remainder of the Tri-Valley Floor on Highway 580 and across the Dublin/Castro Valley Pass would be too restrictive and over bearing. This would result in selection of less desirable but necessary programs, such as Modesto JC and Los Medanos College within their Fire Service Technology Programs. Many students are already attending alternative sights even beyond these two colleges to complete their “Firefighter I” Academies, such as with Columbia College, American River College and Butte College or the South Bay Consortium, where commutes are either non-existent and or experience minimal in impacts during regular academy program hours.</p>	<p>Mark an X next to each area that is addressed in your response.</p>		
	<p>Definitions of terms:  <a href="https://goo.gl/23jrxt">https://goo.gl/23jrxt</a></p>		
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<p>*Curriculum will also be</p>			

	addressed in Part 2 (Curriculum Review).
	**Facilities will also be addressed in Question H.

**E. Obstacles: What obstacles has your program faced in achieving plans and goals?**

<p>There continues to be a lack of support to recognize the many accomplishments by the students of the Las Positas College Fire Service Technology Programs, especially by the Board and the Administrative Levels of the District. The time has come to demonstrate a commitment to their hard work and success from the many past generations who have attended and graduated from the program and have gone on to very successful careers within the Fire Service Family. The lack of a comprehensive training facility with a training tower shall limit the true potential of the Fire Service Technology here at LPC for years to come. It is the only obstacle, that limits the program here at Las Positas College.</p>	Mark an X next to each area that is addressed in your response.
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**Facilities will also be addressed in Question H.	

**F. Short Term Planning: What are your most important plans (either new or continuing) for next year?**

<p>Entering into an agreement with the Livermore Pleasanton Fire Department as an approved ALA Facility for the delivery of "Firefighter I" Academies and other programs essential to the industry and beneficial to students here at LPC. To Re-write all curriculum outlines to reflect the latest guidelines from accrediting bodies and the Sate Fire Service Board and finally to secure the necessary funding to develop a comprehensive training facility which includes a Training Tower.</p>	Mark an X next to each area that is addressed in your response.
	Definitions of terms: <a href="https://goo.gl/23jrxt">https://goo.gl/23jrxt</a>
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**G. Long Term Planning (Optional): Please detail any long-term plans for the next 3-5 years. (Only if you have significant plans, such as implementation of a grant project, creation of long-term initiatives including those using restricted funds such as Equity or SSSP, construction and outfitting of a new building).**

<p>Work with Architects and the District to develop a comprehensive plan for the development of a robust and sufficient training facility for the near future, which also fulfills the long-term commitment necessary for the programs continued success and growth.</p> <p><b><u>Facility Requirements</u></b></p> <p>Surface Area Need: Minimum 5-6 Acres  Instructional Classrooms:  Four (4) "Smart Classrooms" to meet Class enrollments of up to 45 Students.  One (1) Large Lecture Hall with seating for up to 200</p> <p><b>Two (2) Large Special Lab Classrooms:</b>  #1: Emergency Medical Skills Training-Includes small private assessment rooms with different scenario props and recording equipment and observation windows.  #2: Fire and AJ Lab Classroom equipped with mirrors and portable Mats for physical training activities and tactics.  #3: A. J. Driver Trainer Simulator Room with a Force Options Training Room</p>	Mark an X next to each area that is addressed in your response.
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<p>Support Facilities: Offices for support staff with a Lobby Entry  Offices for Full Time and Part Time Faculty  Conference Room for all three disciplines  Necessary Storage  Locker Rooms with Shower Facilities for Students and Faculty  Large Structure for Parking and Protecting All Public Safety  Training Vehicles; (2) Type I Fire Engines, (1) Fire Truck, (1)  Type III Wildland Fire Engines, (1) Ambulances, (1) Forensics  Crime Scene Van, (1) Police Patrol Vehicles <b>(All Vehicles  already owned by District at LPC)</b></p> <p><b>Special Training Facilities: Five to seven Story Training  Tower</b>  <b>Flash Trainer in two story Annex with Forcible Door Entry  Props including two Burn Rooms (1<sup>st</sup> &amp; 3<sup>rd</sup> Floors)</b>  <b>Includes both Dry and Wet Standpipe System</b>  <b>Elevator Shaft with working ADA Compliant Elevator and  One Elevator that can be tagged-out for training.</b>  <b>Internal and External Stair Systems</b>  <b>Fire Escape and Multiple Balconies</b>  <b>Confined Space Rescue Props – Above Ground Tank and  Below Grade Concrete Vault</b>  <b>Hazardous Materials Mitigation Props</b>  <b>Ventilation Training Props Both Ground Level and to Tower</b>  <b>Drafting Pit</b>  <b>Automobile Fire Training Prop and burn area location</b></p> <p><b>*It is important to note that all of the proposed facilities and  props can provide for opportunities of training for all three  disciplines.</b></p> <p><b><u>Infrastructure Needs</u></b></p> <p><b>Hydrants: One to Two “Potable Water” Hydrants on Site  (Minimum 1000 GPM) Flow Characteristics</b></p>	<p>Review).</p> <p>**Facilities will also be  addressed in Question H.</p>
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H. Do you have any facilities needs that are currently unmet? If yes, please describe.

<p><b>See question:</b></p> <p><b>The value of a of a Training Tower is due to the continued growth of more Mid to High Rise  Structures being built and planned for the future within the region and beyond. Land values  and property cost restrictions continue to change the landscape to taller and taller  occupancies. This is not just the norm in Large city communities but now found throughout</b></p>
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communities in California. Tower Training Facilities of this nature will help prepare students to meet the many complex emergencies that can occur in occupancies of this nature today and in the future.

**I. Mission: Explain how your program’s plans and accomplishments support the mission of Las Positas College:**

*Las Positas College is an inclusive learning-centered institution providing educational opportunities and support for completion of students’ transfer, degree, basic skills, career-technical, and retraining goals.*

It fulfills the final component and commitment to the students of Las Positas College when the Fire Service Technology Program was first established in the 1970’s to the than “Valley Campus” Extension Program. It is necessary for their degree to complete this final level of training, which is the “Firefighter I” Academy. It is the building of a training tower, along with a true commitment to planning and building a “Public Safety” Training Facility, that completes the final stage of commitment to the three programs.

**J. Program-Set Standard (Instructional Programs Only): Did your program meet its program-set standard for successful course completion?  yes  no**

(This data can be found here: <https://goo.gl/b59nCy>)

If your program did not meet your program-set standard, discuss possible reasons and how this may affect program planning or resource requests.

N/A

**K. SLO/SAO Reflection: Describe an example of how your program used course SLO data (CSLOs), Student Service Area Outcome (SAO) data or Program SLO data (PSLOs) from last year (2016-17) to impact student learning or achievement. Focus on PSLOs or CSLOs where you have multiple semesters of data to analyze. (Copy the box below if you would like to discuss multiple examples.)**

Course Name, Program Name or Student Service Area: Fire Service Technology FST 50
Text of the CSLO, SAO, or PSLO:
Describe the quantitative or qualitative results: Subjective review followed by examples provided to students with definitive do’s and don’ts for successful outcomes in future applications and resumes.

Discuss and reflect upon student achievement for this CSLO/PSLO/SAO. Discuss any actions taken so far (and results, if known) and your action plan for the future:  
Basic Writing skills with Application Actions and Resume development, which can lead students to potential employment. We assess these skills at the beginning of class and at the end of class to see a difference in structure and quality of application opportunities and resume development for future opportunities of employment.

What changes in student achievement are evident across the semesters you analyzed? What are some possible explanations for these changes in student achievement?

Students continue to be challenged, by a lack of basic skills, especially in English and proper formatting of basic documents such as resumes.

**L. Plans for Analysis of SLO/SAO Data: Identify the PSLOs, CSLOs, or SAOs that your program plans on focusing on the upcoming year with subsequent analysis. (Copy the box below as needed.)**

Circle One: CSLO   PSLO   SAO
Course, Program Name, or Student Service Area: <b>Fire Service Technology</b>
Text of CSLO/PSLO/SAO: <b>Correctly Identify the nine different Fire Service Agency Organizations and accurately describe the scope of service of each one</b>
If you plan on analyzing a PSLO, identify the CSLOs that feed into the PSLO that will need to be assessed. FST 50

## **Section Two: Curriculum Review (Programs with Courses Only)**

The following questions ask you to review your program's curriculum. To see the last outline revision date and revision due date:

- 1. Log in to CurricUNET**
- 2. Select "Course Outline Report" under "Reports/Interfaces"**
- 3. Select the report as an Excel file or as HTML**

### **Curriculum Updates**

**A. Title V Updates: Are any of your courses requiring an update to stay within the 5 year cycle? List courses needing updates below.**

**The following courses require a Title V Update which we are in the process of completing now.**

**FST 50 Fire Service Technology  
FST 51 Fire Service Operations  
FST 52 Fire Fighter Safety and Survival  
FST 53 Fire Behavior and Combustion  
FST 54 Fire Prevention Technology  
FST 55 Fire Protection Equipment and Systems  
FST 56 Fundamentals of Building Construction for Fire Protection  
FST 65 First Responder Hazardous Materials / Incident Command ICS 200  
FST 86A CAL Fire Basic Firefighter (2010)  
FST 90 Firefighter I Certification Preparation Academy**

**Note: All course are available and offered at the LPC Campus except for the FST 90 "Firefighter Certification Preparation Academy". We will need a contract agreement with a neighboring Fire Service Agency for an approved and accredited Training facility or provide an accredited training facility within the college for accreditation with State Fire Training.**

**B. Degree/Certificate Updates: Are any degrees/certificates requiring an update to do changes to courses (title, units) or addition/deactivation of courses? List needed changes below.**

The "Fire Service Technology" Program continues to enjoy some of the highest success rates at the college. This is especially evident when continuing to look at the number of both degrees and Certificates awarded in Fire Service Technology each year. Though our number of enrolments diminished in recent years, they rebounded in the 2015-2016 academic year with a growth factor of 630 students. A growth of over 11% from the 2014-2015 academic year. We still enjoy extremely high enrollments in comparison to most other disciplines on the campus. Our success rate in the 2015-2016 academic-year was at 83%, well above most other disciplines. The numbers have diminished slightly for the Academic year of 2016-2017, but enrollments for the 2017 Fall Semester are now up from last year's enrollments. This shall lead to increases in graduation rates in the near future. It is our belief that with the return of a "Firefighter I" Academy to Las Positas College and the development of a comprehensive "Public Safety" Training Facility, that these numbers will only

continue to increase. We have only limited changes to the Degree Program that is in curriculum planning now.

**C. DE Courses/Degrees/Certificates: Detail your department's plans, if any, for adding DE courses, degrees, and/or certificates. For new DE degrees and/or certificates (those offered completely online), please include a brief rationale as to why the degree/certificate will be offered online.**

N/A

**Section Three: CTE Updates  
(CTE Programs Only)**

**A. Labor Market Conditions:** Examine your most recent labor market data. Does your program continue to meet a documented labor market demand? Does this program not represent unnecessary duplication of other training programs in the college's service area? (Please note: your labor market data should be current within two years. Contact [Vicki Shipman](#) or the current CTE Project Manager for access to data).

**Labor Market Demands remain Strong. Future hiring standards across the industry remain strong in California, and out of state as many traditional "Volunteer Agencies" of the past convert to professional organizations as demands warrant this change in many communities across the national landscape.**

**B. Advisory Boards:** Has your program complied with advisory board recommendations? If not, please explain.

Yes, We meet twice a year in each semester.

**C. Strong Workforce Program Metrics:** Utilizing LaunchBoard, review the Strong Workforce Program Metrics. Review the data and then answer the following questions.

(Contact [Vicki Shipman](#) or the current CTE Project Manager for help accessing the data).

C1. Does your program meet or exceed the regional and state medians **for increased enrollments, completions, and/or transfer since your last program review**? If not, what program improvements may be made to increase this metric?

Yes

C2. Does your program meet or exceed the regional and state medians **for students gaining employment in their field of study**? If not, what program improvements may be made to increase this metric?

Yes

C3. Does your program meet or exceed the regional and state medians **for student employment rates after leaving the college**? If not, what program improvements may be made to increase this metric?

**Yes**

C4. Does your program meet or exceed the regional and state medians **for increased student earnings and median change in earnings**? If not, what program improvements may be made to increase this metric?

**Yes**