



Crafton Hills College Fire Academy Fall 2013 Exit Survey Results

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Purpose of Brief

This brief describes the results of the Fire Academy exit survey which attempted to measure the impact of temporarily relocating the CHC Fire Academy to the CalFire San Bernardino Unit.

Summary of Findings

- 100% of respondents either agreed or strongly agreed that the CalFire and other off-campus locations were conducive to their learning experience.
- 100% of respondents would recommend the CHC Fire Academy to a friend.
- 95% of respondents either agreed or strongly agreed that they received the same quality education at CalFire as they would have received on-campus.
- 75% of respondents either disagreed or strongly disagreed that they felt connected to the CHC community.
- Of the 9 comments provided by respondents, 5 comments praised the Fire Academy program and CalFire, 4 comments described respondents feeling detached from or underserved by CHC, and 3 comments were highly critical of access to classroom space on-campus.

Overview

The CHC Fire Academy training was temporarily relocated to the CalFire location in San Bernardino in Fall 2013 due to the demolition of the Occupational Education Building #2 (OE2). Fire Academy faculty contacted the Office of Institutional Effectiveness, Research & Planning (OIERP) to conduct an exit survey of the twenty cadets to measure whether the temporary relocation impacted the cadets' perceptions of the training and their general college experience.

Methodology

In conjunction with the OIERP, the Fire Academy faculty developed a paper survey administered to cadets on November 12, 2013. There were twenty responses for a 100% response rate. The survey included six Likert-scale questions which measured the respondent's level of agreement with various statements regarding the respondent's perceptions and experiences. There were two dichotomous questions on academic background at CHC, and one dichotomous question on whether the respondent would recommend the CHC Fire Academy. The survey had one open-ended question to elicit responses on any positive or negative experiences related to the temporary relocation. Lastly, the survey asked for the respondent's name and student ID number.

Findings

Table 1 illustrates the responses to the three dichotomous questions. One-hundred percent of respondents took their Fire Academy pre-requisites at CHC and would recommend the CHC Fire Academy to a friend. Sixty-five percent of respondents stated they took other classes at CHC.

Table 1. Responses to dichotomous questions

Question	Yes		No	
	N	%	N	%
Did you take your pre-requisites for the CHC Fire Academy?	20	100.0	0	0.0
Have you taken any other classes at CHC?	13	65.0	7	35.0
Would you recommend the CHC Fire Academy to a friend interested in becoming a firefighter?	20	100.0	0	0.0

Table 2 illustrates respondent's level of agreement with various statements regarding their training with the CHC Fire Academy. One hundred percent of respondents either agreed or strongly agreed that the Cal Fire and other off-campus locations were conducive to their learning experience. Conversely, 75% of respondents either disagreed or strongly

disagreed that they felt connected to the CHC community, and 60% agreed or strongly agreed that college support services were readily available to them. Lastly, 95% of respondents agreed or strongly agreed that traveling to different **did not** negatively impact their ability to learn and that they received the same quality education at CalFire as they would have received on-campus.

Table 2. Responses to Likert-scale questions

Statement	Strongly Agree		Agree		Disagree		Strongly Disagree		Mean
	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%	
The Cal Fire San Bernardino location was conducive to my learning experience.	14	70.0	6	30.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	4
The other off-site locations were conducive to my learning experience.	14	70.0	6	30.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	4
I felt connected to the Crafton Hills College community.	2	10.0	3	15.0	7	35.0	8	40.0	2
College support services were readily available to me.	3	15.0	9	45.0	6	30.0	2	10.0	3
Traveling to different locations did not negatively impact my ability to learn the training's objectives.	11	55.0	8	40.0	1	5.0	0	0.0	3
I received the same quality education being at Cal Fire San Bernardino as I would have received being on-campus.	12	60.0	7	35.0	1	5.0	0	0.0	4

Finally, 9 respondents provided comments regarding the impact of the Fire Academy being temporarily relocated to CalFire. Five comments praised the Fire Academy program and CalFire, 4 comments described respondents feeling detached from or underserved by CHC, and 3 comments were highly critical of access to classroom space on-campus. The comments are included below:

- At two different times the academy had to be at CHC. We were literally kicked out of the classroom library for a potluck the 1st time. We took quizzes in the parking lot and grass area. Hope the potluck was more important to my quiz.
- CalFire staff was great. Crafton Hills College was not as great.
- Every instructor was very knowledgeable & helpful.
- I felt distant from the college of CHC but CalFIRE facility has been a great pleasure to be a part of.
- I felt forgotten from the college. We didn't get our binders until week 10 in the academy; also when we were on campus, we kept getting moved around because we didn't have a place to be, but because of the good program it made it not a big deal.
- It was good. Just wish we were at college campus more.
- It's hard to compare my experience at CalFire because it's all I know; however other than the logistics, I feel I learned just as much and had the same experience as any other cadets that have been through Crafton Hills' Fire Academy.
- Support services and college businesses were often closed by the time we were done with the academy and drive over there.
- When we were on campus we were kicked out of our classroom for a faculty meeting and were forced into the parking lot to finish class. We took a test for certification sitting on a curb in parking lot I. This is not Fire Academy staff fault. There needs to be a place for us to have class on campus. That was unacceptable.