

A G E N D A



Recommendation for Council Action

Austin City Council	Item ID	29142	Agenda Number	21.
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Meeting Date:	1/23/2014	Department:	Austin Fire Department
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Subject

Authorize execution of an interlocal agreement between the City and Austin Community College (ACC) to provide Austin Fire Department cadets with completion certificates from ACC's Department of Continuing Education for training academy courses that are consistent with advanced certification from the Texas Commission on Fire Protection's curriculum and to convert the certificates to ACC college credit hours. The initial term of the agreement is one year and it will automatically renew on an annual basis unless terminated by either party.

Amount and Source of Funding

No funding necessary

Fiscal Note

A fiscal note is not required.

Purchasing Language:	
Prior Council Action:	Prior interlocal agreement approved by Council on 11-01-12.
For More Information:	Fire Chief Rhoda Mae Kerr, 974-0130; Chief of Staff Harry Evans, 974-0132
Boards and Commission Action:	
MBE / WBE:	
Related Items:	

Additional Backup Information

The purpose of this Interlocal Agreement between the City of Austin, acting by and through the Austin Fire Department (AFD), and Austin Community College (ACC) is the development and implementation of a training program that provides AFD employees with opportunities to pursue higher education, State Certification classes, and receive college credit for instruction completed. The types of training that may be offered are Academy Certification, Professional Development/TCFP (Texas Commission on Fire Protection) Certification classes, and Continuing Education classes. Certification classes are limited to those classes identified by the TCFP in the Certification Curriculum Manual and listed in the Higher Education Coordinating Board's Workforce Education Course Manual.

AFD provides instructors meeting the minimum qualification standards of ACC and the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board and the Southern Association of College and Schools for designation by ACC as adjunct faculty.

AFD enrolls employees (cadets) into ACC's student system to ensure official enrollment. AFD employees shall be required to adhere to the same enrollment standards established for all Texas institutions of higher education. Employees that do not meet the ACC entrance standards by the completion of the Cadet Academy shall be given access to ACC resources to help them fulfill the entrance requirements. AFD employees shall not be eligible for ACC college credit until they meet the existing standards or requirements. AFD shall be responsible for all costs associated with the administration of the TCFP testing.

ACC's Fire Protection Technology Program shall review and approve the curriculum for the courses to be taught by AFD instructors, maintain the related syllabi on file, and approve and maintain the instructor records associated with Cadet Academy and Advanced Certification coursework. ACC shall evaluate instructors during each class and provide evaluation results to AFD. ACC agrees to convert certificates into equivalent college credit hours when an AFD employee has completed the requirements for establishing a college credit transcript. A letter grade, instead of pass/fail shall be posted on the ACC Continuing Education Transcript only. It is the intent of this Agreement that AFD employees shall be able to utilize courses completed under this Agreement to fulfill degree requirements for an Associate of Applied Science Degree in Fire Protection Technology. ACC shall be responsible for and shall pay the administrative costs associated with the matriculation of the AFD Cadets in the continuing education courses.

ACC shall remit to AFD with twenty (20) percent of the state reimbursement received for student contact hours conducted under this Agreement in compensation for City costs related to educational and instructional expenses. Compensation will be based on the State's reimbursement schedule for public community colleges.