



BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
AGENDA LETTER

Agenda Number:

Clerk of the Board of Supervisors
105 E. Anapamu Street, Suite 407
Santa Barbara, CA 93101
(805) 568-2240

Department Name: Fire Department
Department No.: 031
For Agenda Of: 4/2/2024
Placement: Administrative
Estimated Time:
Continued Item: No
If Yes, date from:
Vote Required: Majority

TO: Board of Supervisors
FROM: Department Mark A. Hartwig, Fire Chief/Fire Warden 805-681-5500
Director
Contact Info: Garrett Huff, Acting Deputy Chief 805-896-6403
SUBJECT: Student Support Agreement between the County of Santa Barbara and Allan Hancock College Paramedic Program

County Counsel Concurrence

As to form: Yes

Other Concurrence: Risk Management

As to form: Yes

Auditor-Controller Concurrence

As to form: N/A

Recommended Actions:

That the Board of Supervisors:

- a) Approve and authorize the Chair to execute a Student Support Agreement (Attachment A) which will allow the Santa Barbara County Fire Department (Fire Department) to provide clinical paramedic student learning experiences in cooperation with Allan Hancock College with a period of performance from April 2, 2024 to April 2, 2029; and
- b) Approve and authorize the Chair to execute Exhibit C to the Student Support Agreement allowing for use of electronic signatures; and
- c) Approve and authorize the Fire Chief to make immaterial amendments in accordance with Agreement section 23 and to extend the term of the Agreement in accordance with Sections 10 and 13 provided that the term does not extend beyond December 31, 2029, unless otherwise directed by the Board and upon review and approval by County Counsel's Office and Risk Management; and
- d) Determine that these activities are not a "project" under the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) per CEQA Guideline Section 15378(b)(5), since the recommended actions are organizational or administrative activities of governments that will not result in direct or indirect physical changes in the environment.

Summary Text:

This Agreement will allow Fire Department Paramedic Preceptors/Field Training Officers to assist with the Internship period of Paramedic Prehospital certification and licensure training requirements. The Internship period allows for student observation and hands-on experience in the presence of a Paramedic Preceptor/Field Training Officer. There is no monetary obligation on either party associated with this Agreement. The term of the agreement is five (5) years and can be extended through December 31, 2029.

Background:

The Fire Department and Allan Hancock College (AHC) established a relationship in 2023 when an agreement was made to reserve spots in their paramedic training program for Santa Barbara County fire personnel. Since that time, the Fire Department has sponsored four groups of full-time firefighters and hand crew members to be paramedic students in the Allan Hancock College Paramedic Program. This program has helped the Fire Department bolster its paramedic program with students from the local workforce.

Initial paramedic training is broken into three phases: didactic, clinical, and field internship. The first phase is the didactic part of paramedic training, which involves classroom-based instruction and theoretical learning. Trainees are taught various medical topics, including anatomy, physiology, pharmacology, medical terminology, patient assessment, emergency medical procedures, and ethical and legal considerations. Didactic training provides the foundational knowledge and understanding necessary for paramedics to make informed decisions and provide high-quality care in emergency situations.

The second phase is the clinical part of paramedic training, which involves hands-on experience in real hospital settings. It allows paramedic trainees to apply their knowledge and skills in a practical setting under the supervision of experienced healthcare professionals. This includes learning to assess and treat patients, administer medications, perform various medical procedures, and effectively communicate with patients and other healthcare professionals.

The field internship is the final part of the training, where the student puts all the knowledge and skills learned satisfactorily in the presence of a Paramedic Preceptor/Field Training Officer. This is where aspiring paramedics work in real-life healthcare settings. It is a crucial part of their training as it allows them to develop their decision-making abilities and adaptability in a fast-paced and unpredictable environment.

This agreement further enhances the relationship with Allan Hancock College by allowing the Fire Department to receive students and monitor and evaluate their knowledge, skills, and abilities regarding pre-hospital policies, procedures, and equipment.

Fiscal and Facilities Impacts:

Budgeted: N/A

Fiscal Analysis:

There will be no facilities impacts. Paramedic interns will operate out of existing facilities that have the capacity to function with an additional paramedic.

There are negligible fiscal impacts anticipated for this internship program. The costs related to this program are expected to be minimal (medical gloves, face masks, eye protection and medical gowns utilized while on medical calls) and will vary from year to year based upon the number of paramedic interns participating in the program. The Fire Department's operational budget will fund these minimal costs, as such no additional funding resources are needed to support the program.

Special Instructions:

Upon execution, please return a copy of the Minute Order and Agreement to Garrett Huff, Acting Deputy Fire Chief, Emergency Services, Fire Department: ghuff@countyofsb.org.

Attachments:

- A. Student Support Agreement between the County of Santa Barbara and Allan Hancock College

Authored by:

Garrett Huff, Acting Deputy Fire Chief, Emergency Services