



Local Heroes Fund Committee Recommendation

7-28-2026

Members: Megan Crouch, Josh McDonnell, Tom Giampietro, Ken Nunes, Beth Rumery, Dedi Somavia, Kevin Porterfield

The Local Heroes Fund Committee reviewed the most recent round of Foundation Project Funding Requests for any unfunded or underfunded requests that may fall under the purview of the Local Heroes Fund. The Fire Academy Helmet Purchase proposal was determined to fit and was unfunded by the Foundation Project Funding, not due to lack of merit but for lack of available resources. The full proposal was for \$17,773. According to the COS Legacy Funds Committee Spending Authorization Policy, it exceeds the committees authority to approve the project for funding. The committee considered the proposal and chose to recommend funding it with available Local Heroes Fund resources.

Committee Recommendations

The Local Heroes Fund Committee members unanimously recommend funding the COS Fire Academy Helmet Purchase proposal for \$17,773.



**College of the Sequoias Foundation
New Project Funding Application
2026-2027**

Deadline to Sr. Manager: 1-23-2026

Project Lead Information

First Name: * Nick Last Name: * Branch Email: * nickb@cos.edu

Please indicate your title: * Other - Not Dean, VP, or Presi ▼

Dean Information

First Name: * Jonna Last Name: * Schengel Email: * jonnas@cos.edu

Vice President/Provost Information

First Name: * Michele Last Name: * Brock Email: * michelebr@cos.edu

Project Details

Project Title: * Fire Academy Helmet Purchase

Affected Division(s): * Fire Technology

Affected Department(s): * Fire Technology

Requested Amount: * \$ 17,772.63 * ☒ One-Time * ☐ Multi-year Project Term From: * 07/01/2020 To: * 07/01/2020

Project Description

1. Provide a brief overall description of the project (< 200 words)

* This funding would be utilized to purchase 40 Phenix Tech Firefighting Helmets for the Fire Academy. These helmets are dual compliant and National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) rated. This purchase will allow us to comply with California State Fire Training Testing requirements for our Fire Academy and reduce the academy costs to the students.



Project Title: * Fire Academy Helmet Purchase

2. Describe how the project will improve student success. (< 2500 characters)

* This purchase will directly support student success by providing our current Fire Academy students with a new dual compliant (Structure Fire & Wildland Fire) helmet at no additional costs to the students.

The current helmets utilized by our academy students are reaching their expiration life of 10 years (2016-2026) and no longer meet the standards for the Wildland firefighting. Upon expiration of our current academy helmets, we could no longer utilize them for the course requiring students to purchase or rent their own for the duration of the academy at additional expense.

Our current fire technology budget will not support the purchase of new helmets for the academy. The use of rented or student purchased helmets will create logistical issues with maintenance and uniformity as well.

3. Describe how the project will benefit the department(s) and/or the District. (< 2500 characters)

* The current fire academy helmets, which are expiring, are not dual-compliant helmets. We have to make modifications halfway through the fire academy when we transition to wildland firefighting skills and testing from our structural firefighting module. These modifications do not meet the state standards for testing firefighters during their academy. We received a variance until new equipment could be purchased.

The new helmet purchase would drastically reduce the logistical time it takes to make our current outdated equipment function as needed.

4. Describe the measurable outcomes of the project and how those outcomes will be measured and assessed. (< 1250 characters)

* All fire academy students are tested in the process of donning and doffing both structural firefighting gear and then again during wildland firefighting modules. The measurable outcome of this purchase will be in the time required to complete the skills with the appropriate PPE, and also the students successful completion of the skills within 3 attempts allowed to them during state testing.



Project Title: * Fire Academy Helmet Purchase

5. Provide a total project budget; including all related incomes (including the amount requested) and all applicable expenses. Please use our support departments (facilities, information technology, marketing, etc.) for accurate estimates. For Multi-year proposals, articulate a plan to diminish and ultimately eliminate the need for COS Foundation support over time.

* QTY O/C		DESCRIPTION	PRICE	EXTENSION
40	ea	Phenix Tech Model 1500-2007GR-ESS Fire Fighting		\$406.95
\$16,278.00		Helmet - Color (4) White, (6) Red, (30) Black with: Ratchet Suspension Detachable Nomex Earflaps Comfort Brow Pad Nomex Chinstrap with Postmans Slide ESS NFPA Goggles ESS Snap on/off Attachment Kit		
		Terms: Net 30 FOB: O/W Delivery: 3-4 weeks		
		Subtotal	\$16,278.00	
		8.50%	\$1,383.63	
		Freight	\$111.00	
		TOTAL	\$17,772.63	

Attachments

Provide any relevant attachments (program descriptions, purchase quotes, vender estimates, etc.) you wish to have the COS Foundation Board to consider with this proposal.

Attachment 1: College of the Sequoias Helmets 1215.pdf

Attachment 2:

Attachment 3:

Attachment 4:

Attachment 5:

Attachment 6:

Attachment 7:

Attachment 8:

Certifications

The undersigned parties certify that the following funding terms are true and correct should the project proposal be awarded by the COS Foundation Board.

- * ☒ Yes ☐ No The undersigned parties certify that the following funding terms are true and correct should the project proposal be awarded by the COS Foundation Board.
- * ☒ Yes ☐ No The Project Lead Staff will keep Foundation staff apprised of the progress of the project.
- * ☒ Yes ☐ No The COS Foundation will be included in funding recognitions and publicity where applicable.
- * ☒ Yes ☐ No The Project Lead Staff will submit at least one written project evaluation within one year of initial funding.
- * ☒ Yes ☐ No The Project Lead Staff will follow COS Foundation policy and procedures appropriate for financial transactions and Foundation records.
- * ☒ Yes ☐ No The department or program affected by the Project currently has a satisfactory or above rating in the most recent program review.

Project Lead Signature

*

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Nick Branch

Signature

01/14/2026

Date



Approvals and Signatures

Project Title: * Fire Academy Helmet Purchase

Dean

Approval Decision: * Approved ▼

Comments:

*

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Jonna Schengel

Dean Signature

01/20/2026
Date

Vice President/Provost

Approval Decision: * Approved ▼

Comments:

District Vice President or Provost attests that this project is necessary, the requested amount is accurate, and the District will absorb any associated costs for accepting this funding.

*

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Michele Brock

VP/Provost Signature

01/20/2026
Date

Superintendent/President

Approval Decision: * ▼

Comments:

District President attests that this project is desired by the District and the District will accept Foundation funding, if provided in full.

*

Superintendent/President Signature

Date

ALLSTAR FIRE EQUIPMENT, INC

12328 Lower Azusa Road
Arcadia, California 91006
TEL (626)652-0900
FAX (626) 652-0919

Quote

Date: 14-Jan-26
Salesperson: John

To: College of the Sequoias
Attn: Nick Branch

QTY	O/C	DESCRIPTION	PRICE	EXTENSION
40	ea	Phenix Tech Model 1500-2007GR-ESS Fire Fighting Helmet - Color (4) White, (6) Red, (30) Black with: Ratchet Suspension Detachable Nomex Earflaps Comfort Brow Pad Nomex Chinstrap with Postmans Slide ESS NFPA Goggles ESS Snap on/off Attachment Kit Terms: Net 30 FOB: O/W Delivery: 3-4 weeks	\$406.95	\$16,278.00
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