*Sample Text to Customize and Incorporate into Your Proposal*

**[Title of Grant] Proposal**

*Integrating the Get Focused Stay Focused Program as the Launch Course for ALL Career Pathways to Facilitate Successful Pathway Selection and Completion for ALL Students*

[Date]

[Grantor Organization Name]

[Grantor Organization Address], [City, State, Zip Code]

I am writing to present a comprehensive grant proposal on behalf of [Your Organization], seeking support to integrate the Get Focused Stay Focused (GFSF) program into our educational framework. This proposal aligns with the overarching goals outlined by the [Title of Grant], focusing on:

* Early Career Exploration Integrated Pathway Launch Course for ALL 9th Grade Students
* Equitable Access to Postsecondary Credits While in High School
* Work-Based Learning Experiences
* Holistic Support Services
* Building Industry-Aligned Pathways
* Improved Pathway Navigation for Increased Student Success
* Successful Pathways through Engagement and Collaboration
* Sustainable Pathways by Design for Long-Term Success
* Tools for Data-Driven Planning and Decision-Making

**Executive Summary**

The program proposed herein recognizes the importance of preparing ALL students for successful futures by integrating the Get Focused Stay Focused (GFSF) program model. Utilizing the *Career Choices and Changes* and My10yearPlan.com curriculum in our GFSF implementation provides a vital early career exploration course for all of our career pathways, offering a proven A-G, dual credit course with a track record of success involving over 600,000 California students.

**Our Plan**

Our proposed plan involves every 9th grade student taking a 3-unit dual enrollment ‘Get Focused’ course, providing a solid foundation for their educational and career journey. The GFSF program culminates with students developing a personalized online skills-based, career, and education 10-Year Plan. This plan is then updated annually throughout the 10th, 11th, and 12th grades using the 3 GFSF Follow-Up Modules to integrate the ‘Stay Focused’ process seamlessly into academic courses. Faculty, counselors, and future college counselors utilize students’ 10-Year Plans for academic coaching and advising, ensuring students remain on track with their career pathway selections and postsecondary goals.

**Desired Outcomes**

**Early Career Exploration Integrated Pathway Launch Course for ALL 9th Grade Students:**

The 9th grade ‘Get Focused’ course is A-G approved and serves as the foundational first sequence course for all career pathways (CALPADS code 7000), aligning with California state standards, the Common Career Technical Core, and Career Ready Practice standards. This course ensures comprehensive early career exploration, empowering students to make intentional career pathway selections.

**Equitable Access to Postsecondary Credits While in High School:**

The GFSF program contributes significantly to the goal of each student earning at least 12 postsecondary credits prior to high school graduation. The 9th grade ‘Get Focused’ course offers 3 units of dual enrollment credit, providing students with a head start in their academic journey. The 'Stay Focused' Follow-Up Modules in 10th, 11th, and 12th grades each offer an additional 1 unit of dual credit. This model reinforces the impact early college credit has on students’ future plans and the importance of pathway completion, which mitigates equity gaps, removes barriers to student success, and fosters a proactive "I am college material" mindset, especially for underrepresented populations.

**Work-Based Learning Experiences:**

Our GFSF program serves as a crucial onramp for work-based learning by assisting students in exploring their interests and exposing them to diverse career options so work-based learning opportunities can support students’ interests and plans. The GFSF model also equips students with necessary employability skills to ensure student success in workplace settings.

**Holistic Support Services:**

The curriculum central to the ‘Get Focused’ course, *Career Choices and Changes*, is more than a career exploration course; it is a comprehensive guidance course that emphasizes social and emotional well-being. CASEL components are incorporated throughout the 100 activities in the curriculum, covering concepts like self-awareness, social/diversity awareness, resilience, empathy, adaptability, being self-directed, and self advocating. Upon completion of the course, students have a new understanding of how these skills impact their future happiness and employability. This is particularly important to underrepresented populations.

**Building Industry-Aligned Pathways:**

The academically-based activities, surveys, and assessments in the GFSF course materials lead to the development of a skills-based 10-year education and career plan. The curriculum teaches students how to analyze local labor market data, identify high-demand occupations, and tailor their 10-Year Plan to industry needs, which helps ensure students’ career pathway choices are industry-connected and, therefore, responsive to changing workplace demands.

**Improved Pathway Navigation for Increased Student Success**:

As the foundational introductory course for all pathways, GFSF facilitates collaboration with postsecondary and industry partners. The online 10-Year Plan provides a common tool for high school and college counseling departments. Each students’ unique Skills-Based Education Plan encourages increased participation in work-based learning opportunities and maps a seamless transition from high school to postsecondary training and workforce entry, thereby motivating students for pathway completion. Aligned with California state, Common Career Technical Core, and Career Ready Practice standards, GFSF courses help nurture essential employability skills, which is particularly vital for at-risk students who may lack role models.

**Successful Pathways through Engagement and Collaboration:**

The GFSF model provides opportunities for collaboration between local education agencies, postsecondary partners, workforce development agencies, local employers, and community stakeholders. The program provides practical introductory experiences for ALL students, enhancing their confidence and competence and ensuring equity and inclusivity. The 'Get Focused' foundational course prepares students for opportunities to interact with local employers and community members through work-based learning experiences, job shadows, mock interviews, and informational interviews. Collaboration with local community colleges for dual enrollment credit in the 'Get Focused' course aligns with the California Community Colleges Chancellor’s Office goal of providing dual enrollment for every 9th grade student.

**Sustain Pathways by Design for Long-Term Success:**

To ensure sustainable implementation, we propose prudent resource allocation and braiding of private, federal, and state funding. The GFSF program is eligible for grant funding from sources such as Perkins, Title I, Career and Technical Education Incentive Grant (CTEIG), and K12 Strong Workforce Program (K12 SWP). Further financial support can be pursued through special grants like [Appropriate Example Here]. The adoption of the ‘Get Focused’ course and 10-Year Plan as a graduation requirement can be incorporated into our Local Control Accountability Plan (LCAP). Community support is actively encouraged through service organization student/mentor projects. By industry standards, the GFSF curriculum and professional development are low-cost, and we will leverage the just-in-time asynchronous online professional development resources from GFSF and Academic Innovations, making sustainability an attainable goal.

**Tools for Data-Driven Planning and Decision-Making:**

My10yearPlan.com provides a valuable and flexible tool for data collection, progress tracking, and informed decision-making. My10yearPlan.com provides insights into students' educational and career aspirations through detailed career path reports, pre-/post-survey reports, and 10-Year Plan Summary reports. The reported data is used to facilitate targeted support and interventions for student progress. The data also contributes to planning discussions with our local/regional postsecondary, workforce development, and industry partners, facilitating alignment of pathways with industry needs, which empowers students to transition seamlessly from high school to postsecondary to the workplace. My10yearPlan.com allows for easy data filtering and exporting for customized analysis, ensuring tailored planning and decision-making.

**Budget and Resource Allocation**

|  | **Year 1** | **Year 2** | **Year 3** | **Year 4** |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Lead Teacher | FTE .25 | FTE .15 | FTE .10 | FTE .10 |
| Professional development and technical assistance coaching | $13,000 | $4,995 | $495  Ongoing PD is facilitated by staff with  annual license to online PD resources | $495  Ongoing PD is facilitated by staff with  annual license to online PD resources |
| Stipend for substitutes to provide release time for professional development | $2,500 | $2,500 | $2,500 | $2,500 |
| Attendance at annual GFSF Conference for a team of 4 | $3,200 | $3,360 | $3,520 | $3,680 |
| GFSF curriculum and My10yearPlan.com | *Call for pricing*  *(800) 967-8016* | *Call for pricing*  *(800) 967-8016* | *Call for pricing*  *(800) 967-8016* | *Call for pricing*  *(800) 967-8016* |

Lead Teacher/Administrator:

* Works with a dedicated Technical Assistance Coach during Years 1 and 2 to deliver the planning and implementation PD as outlined in the Technical Assistance Package
* Year 1 the Lead Teacher has 2 periods of release time; Year 2 the Lead Teacher has 1 period of release time; Years 3 and 4 the Lead Teacher is available for instructor and counselor coaching

Professional Development and Technical Assistance Coaching:

* Year 1 includes a dedicated Technical Assistance Coach, the funds to have a certified trainer help facilitate a two-day leadership institute, and other customer support as determined in the annual professional development plan
* Year 2 includes a dedicated Technical Assistant Coach for counselor/advisor PD as well as support for Follow-Up Module PD planning
* By Year 3 and 4, the capacity of the school leadership is developed to the point that the school personnel take on the role of trainer/facilitator using the online PD resources for self-directed learning for new staff and for enhancements

Stipend for substitutes:

* Substitutes allow staff to attend onsite workshops and the annual GFSF conference

Attendance at annual GFSF conference:

* Registration, travel, and expenses for a team of 4 to attend the annual GFSF conference

Curriculum:

* Cost for curriculum materials each year for four years

**Conclusion**

In leveraging the [Title of Grant] funding to initiate the GFSF program, our schools are poised to launch a proven dual enrollment/A-G course that promises to be a transformative force in fostering academic, career pathway, and, ultimately, workplace success for ALL students. What sets this initiative apart is its holistic approach, positioning the GFSF program not merely as a career exploration program but as a comprehensive guidance course that supports the advisory functions of the school. Upon completion, students will emerge with a dynamic online 10-year skills-based education and career plan—an unparalleled resource they will continuously update throughout their high school and college journeys.

This unique feature is a game-changer, instilling in students a profound motivation to excel in their carefully chosen career pathways and pursue postsecondary education or training. The GFSF program imparts a forward-thinking mindset, enabling students to comprehend the benefits of focusing on their future and recognizing the tangible rewards in terms of their happiness and life satisfaction.

As students enter their career pathways, they bring with them not only the desire to succeed in life but also the essential employability skills, maturity, and confidence required for successful completion. By instilling a deep understanding of the process involved in determining their aspirations and the strategic steps to achieve them, the GFSF program sets a precedent for a generation of individuals ready to navigate the complexities of the workforce with resilience and purpose. This is an investment not just in education; it is an investment in the long-term success, fulfillment, and contributions of our students to the broader community.