

The Middle School Foundation Academy (MSFA) Planning Grant Overview

The Middle School Foundation Academies Grant aims to prepare students for acceptance into a California Partnership Academies (CPAs) at the local high school. Specifically, the program provides \$25,000 start-up funds for 10 middle school career academies. The MSFA Planning Grant aims to provide middle grade students with career technical education (CTE) and career exploration learning experiences.

The program is outlined in the five elements described below.

Element 1: To develop the academies at the middle school level, districts will implement the use of the California Career Resource Network (CalCRN) Career and College Readiness Lesson Plans, which align with the CTE Standards for Career Ready Practice, in fifth and sixth grade starting the 2019–20 school year. This will allow the students to develop a career ready skills foundation prior to entering middle school.

Element 2: The CPA staff in coordination with the Light House Academies (LHAs) or CPAs partner(s) will **develop a plan for establishing the MSFA model**, including industry representation. Regionally, utilize CPA or LHA staff to provide technical assistance to the middle schools.

Element 3: Design a three semester career and self-exploration sequence of courses.

1. One semester mini-CTE or CTE Wheel or modifications on these themes;
2. One semester introductory to CTE content area;
3. One semester combined intermediate content course and development of high school/college/career/10 year plan.

Schools, where appropriate, may integrate course activities into existing courses or advisories.

Element 4: Provide at least four **Leadership Seminars offered** at various times and various locations throughout the state to teams of district and site educators. The seminars will be developed by the CPA LHA, in collaboration with the Grantee's MSFA, and will provide information and background on career ready practices and programs for middle level students.

Element 5: Develop a coalition of industry partner(s) within each region that will assist with providing work-based learning modules that will be used with the MSFAs.