















# TRADES LEARNING SUITE - PROGRAM DESCRIPTION

#### **INTRODUCTION:**

The Trades Learning Suite (TLS) is an innovative online curriculum designed to provide high-quality, comprehensive trades education to high school students. Recognizing the importance of career and technical education (CTE) as a viable pathway to success, TLS offers a unique blend of academic excellence and practical skills development, perfectly aligning with the objectives of Title I, Part A Schoolwide Programs.

#### **PROGRAM OVERVIEW:**

TLS is tailored to meet the needs of schools with a high percentage of at-risk students and a poverty rate of 40% or higher. By leveraging Title I, Part A funds, TLS aims to upgrade the educational program of participating schools, thereby ensuring all students, particularly those identified as at-risk, have access to a robust educational experience that leads to employability and self-sufficiency in the trades.

## **CURRICULUM FOCUS:**

The TLS curriculum spans essential trade sectors such as Carpentry, HVACR, Plumbing, Electrical, and Solar & Green Energy. The program's courses are designed to foster critical thinking and problem-solving skills through online visual learning, video demonstrations from seasoned trades professionals, and real-world applications. This comprehensive approach ensures students are not only bolstered in their development within core state content standards but are also equipped with the competencies required for success in high-demand trade careers. This preparation - which includes up to 12 semester course options - provides a diverse and nuanced set of pathways that eliminate future college debt for participating students and optimize the students' likelihood of success within well-paid, in-demand, future-proof, and technology-aligned career options.

#### **PROGRAM FEATURES:**

 Asynchronous Learning: Allows students to work at their own pace, accommodating diverse learning styles and schedules.

- Expert-created instruction, practical demonstration, and student feedback:
  Courses are developed and assessed by credentialed teachers and trades experts with current industry knowledge. TLS provides its own instructors and aligns grading practices to the needs, timing, and board policies of the district.
- Technological Integration: High-quality text-to-speech technology and interactive video demonstrations provide an immersive learning environment.
- Customized Content: Course materials are geographically tailored to meet the specific needs and standards of the local community and industry.
- Career Readiness: Emphasis on career pathways, soft skills development, and course standards that target the knowledge requirements of relevant trades organizations, unions, and apprenticeship prerequisite knowledge, primes students for high-percentage success when entering adult-level apprenticeships and job opportunities.
- Support Services: Additional academic support, career counseling, and guidance are available to ensure student success and program effectiveness.

#### **ELIGIBILITY AND SUPPORT FOR AT-RISK STUDENTS:**

TLS specifically addresses the needs of at-risk students by offering individualized student feedback, multiple opportunities for success, and critical thinking-based assignments and assessments; there are no multiple choice or computer-graded tasks!. All assignments, while submitted asynchronously, are directly evaluated by trades experts and teachers. The program's flexible design allows for a differentiated pace of learning and real-time data and expert feedback available to school site-based counselors, administrators, and/or teachers, ensuring that students who are at-risk-of-failing to meet academic standards receive the necessary support to thrive.

#### **COMMUNITY AND PARENTAL ENGAGEMENT:**

Understanding the importance of community and parental involvement, TLS includes components designed to engage parents and community stakeholders. This includes providing constant parental access to the students' TLS course homebase (central page containing student progress and content access on nearly all computers, Chromebooks, and phones) - parents legally and informationally vetted by school-site administrators - as well as offering additional products such as intermittent Zoom workshops on the state of the trades for parents.

### COMPLIANCE AND ACCOUNTABILITY:

TLS is committed to meeting all Title I requirements and maintaining a high level of accountability. The program includes rigorous monitoring and evaluation components to measure student achievement and growth, ensuring that Title I funds are used effectively to support student outcomes.

## **CONCLUSION:**

In conclusion, the Trades Learning Suite stands as a comprehensive solution for schools seeking to establish a Schoolwide Program that not only addresses the academic needs of at-risk students but also provides a no-debt pathway to meaningful employment and economic self-sufficiency. By adopting TLS, schools can offer a transformative educational experience that aligns with Title I goals and prepares students for success in an ever-evolving job market.