

NAF is passionate about creating partnerships around a unique framework that makes access to essential opportunities possible by connecting students, educators, and businesses to strengthen communities. Together, we can ensure every student has the power to leverage greater opportunities, ignite their career aspirations, and help them become future ready.

**Instructions:** NAF offers two options to join the academy network. Choose the admissions program that interests you by selecting the corresponding box and then complete the survey. All applications are subject to approval.

### Year of Planning

The **Year of Planning** is a customized developmental process for implementing a NAF academy. Districts/schools with little or no experience designing a career-focused program receive personalized support and guided technical assistance to ensure that local programming goals align with NAF's design prior to the academy's launch. This planning phase helps to establish a sustainable foundation that fosters academic success and builds the capacity to fulfill the commitments made to academy students and the community. The application fee is \$12,000.

### Fast Track

The **Fast Track** process allows existing career academies implementing most NAF standards, NCAC, or Linked Learning Certified, to join the academy network with full membership benefits. The application includes gathering all necessary documentation to demonstrate that the existing career academy aligns with NAF's design, allowing them to expedite the academy's launch and receive the associated support and resources. The application fee is \$4,000. Note: The \$2,000 annual membership fee is due at the time of the academy's launch.

### Interest Survey

Take the interest survey to assess if your district or school aligns with essential criteria for establishing a NAF career academy. If you answer "No" to two or more questions, we recommend focusing on enhancing your school's capacity to meet these standards before proceeding with the application process.

1. Are career academies a part of the district/school strategy for school improvement? Yes  No
2. Can the district/school commit resources to start a career academy (e.g., financial, human capital)? Yes  No
3. Does the district/school have local business, community, civic, and government entities support? Yes  No
4. Does the district/school support an open choice academy enrollment process? Yes  No
5. Does the district/school have the capacity and interest to support [NAFTrack Certification](#)? Yes  No
6. Does the district/school support work-based learning opportunities that allow high school students to connect their classroom experiences to college and career opportunities? Yes  No
7. Does the district/school support student-centered authentic project learning experiences that encourage voice and choice, reflection and agency, imagination and innovation, and career exploration? Yes  No
8. Can the district/school commit to recruitment efforts resulting in a minimum of 20 students per grade? Yes  No

School District

High School

Name and Role

Email

Phone

