

# Emerging Academies

## Launch Year Tips & Resources



### Congratulations!

Launch Year marks your first year as an official NAF academy with full membership benefits. Below are tips and resources to help your team implement the NAF Design and establish a strong foundation.

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### Celebrate Your Launch

- Press Release: Prepare a [press release](#) to announce the academy's opening to the community
  - Launch Event Ideas:
    - NAF Banner hanging or ribbon cutting ceremony.
    - Continental Breakfast to welcome family and advisory board members.
    - New student & family orientation to provide key information and build excitement.
      - Resources: [Event Planning Checklist](#), [Student Orientation Video](#).
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### Develop a High-Quality NAF Academy – Getting Started

- [Academy Team](#): Form a multi-disciplinary team with defined roles and responsibilities. Hold regular meetings (weekly, bi-weekly, or monthly) with at least three members. Customize the [Agenda](#).
  - [Work-based Learning Tracker](#): Collect and analyze WBL data to ensure equitable student participation.
  - [Advisory Board Development & Operation Plan](#): Outline board formation steps, set progress metrics, and use templates and guides for efficiency.
  - [Academy Quality Process Key Dates](#): Monitor deadlines in NAF's annual quality process. Note: AA is optional for Launch Year. Alternatively, use the [Academy Snapshot](#) to identify areas for improvement.
  - [NAF Academy Standards](#): A guide to essential practices for implementing the NAF Design.
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### Strategize for Success

- Strategic Planning Meeting: Schedule a meeting with the Academy Team before school starts.
  - Academy Team: Confirm the Academy Lead and assign team roles and responsibilities.
  - [NAF Account](#): Enable team access to tools & resources the [Academy Support Hub \(ASH\)](#).
  - Identify Areas for Improvement: Prioritize standards and set goals using the [SMART Goals Guide](#).
    - Align goals with the NAF Design using the [Strategic Action Planning Tool](#).
    - Monitor goal progress in [ASH](#) for support and coordination with NAF staff.
  - Form Sub-committees: Establish sub-committees for targeted focus areas.
  - Develop a Student Recruitment & Marketing Plan:
    - Resources: [Marketing Your Academy - Action Planning Tips](#), [Student Recruitment Guide](#), [Website Content Guide](#), [Counselor's Packet](#).
    - Request your [FREE custom NAF logo](#).
  - Ongoing Support: Schedule recurring coaching sessions with your NAF Portfolio Manager.
  - Professional Development: Join us at [NAF Next](#), our signature professional development event, where we welcome and celebrate new academies joining the NAF Network.
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### NAF Support Team

- Contact NAF's Support Team (help desk) for general inquiries at [support@naf.org](mailto:support@naf.org).