Emerging Academies
Launch Year

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.

Celebrate Your Launch

- Press Release: Prepare a press release to announce the academy's opening to the community.
- Launch Event Ideas:
  - Student & Parent Orientation: Host an orientation before the school year starts.
    - Resources: Event Planning Checklist, Student Orientation Video.
  - NAF Banner Ceremony: Host a banner hanging or ribbon cutting event.
  - Continental Breakfast: Invite parents and advisory board members.

Strategize for Success

- Strategic Planning Meeting: Schedule a meeting with the Academy Team.
- Create a NAF Account: Access tools & resources in 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 progress in ASH for support and coordination with NAF staff (NAF Account required).
- Form Sub-committees: Create sub-committees for targeted focus areas as needed.
- 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.

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 in 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.

NAF Support Team

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