

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.

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: [Academy Announcement](#), [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.
 - [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.