

Fast Track Application Checklist



Fast Track offers an accelerated path to NAF membership! The streamlined process is designed for existing career academies that implement most NAF standards, NCAC, or Linked Learning Certified, and seek full membership benefits. The application involves gathering all necessary documentation to demonstrate that the existing career academy aligns with the NAF Design. This allows for an expedited academy launch and provides access to the associated support and resources. All applications are subject to approval.

Getting Started

- The school/district forms a multi-disciplinary Academy Design Team with a shared vision to start a career academy.
- The Academy Design Team identifies expected outcomes for the district, school, and community through a collaborative partnership with NAF.
- The Academy Design Team uses the Interest Survey to assess partnership alignment and readiness to start a NAF academy.

Admissions Overview (Day 1 – Day 14)

- NAF Review Team assesses partnership alignment and approves schools to proceed with application process.
- NAF Review Team schedules a virtual meeting with approved applicants to review the Fast Track process including an evidence checklist of required documents.

Fast Track Assessment (Day 15 – Day 21)

- The applicant submits the online Fast Track Assessment on behalf of the Academy Design Team.
Tip: Use the sample copy for preparation and accuracy.
- The applicant must achieve a score of 15 or higher to continue with the Fast Track process.

Evidence Submission (Day 22 – Day 45)

- The applicant submits all necessary documentation to demonstrate alignment of current practices with NAF's Design by the end of the 45-day period.

Initial Review (Within 10 Days of Submission)

- NAF Review Team conducts an initial review of the submitted documentation and notifies applicant if clarification or adjustments are needed.

Adjustments & Clarification (Day 46 – Day 60)

- If needed, the applicant incorporates feedback from the initial review into their online Fast Track Assessment, with a 15- day period to make necessary adjustments.
- The NAF Review Team conducts a final review of the evidence to ensure alignment with NAF standards.

Membership Agreement & Fees (Day 61 – Day 75)

- The applicant facilitates the signing of a NAF Membership Agreement to formalize the partnership and initiate invoicing.
- A \$4,000 application fee must be paid prior to the collaborative validation meeting.
- NAF Review Team schedules a virtual validation meeting to finalize the application.

Graduation (Day 76 – Day 90)

- The application process concludes with a collaborative validation meeting to discuss alignment of current practices with the NAF Design to ensure a comprehensive and smooth transition into the NAF academy network.
- The applicant must achieve a final score of 15 or higher during the validation process to be eligible for NAF membership.

NAF Academy Membership (Ongoing)

- The Academy Design Team uses Assessment results to set goals and adjust action plan for the Launch Year.
- A \$2,000 annual membership fee is due at the time of the academy's launch.
- NAF academy membership involves an annual quality level process to maintain fidelity to the NAF Design and drive program quality.

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.

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Questions?

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