

Fast Track Application Checklist



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 the NAF Design, allowing them to expedite the academy's launch and receive the associated support and resources. The Fast Track application fee is \$4,000, and all applications are subject to approval.

Getting Started

- The school/district forms a multi-disciplinary academy design team with a shared vision to establish a NAF 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 as a guide to assess partnership alignment and readiness to start a NAF academy.

Admissions Overview (Day 1 – Day 14)

- NAF Review Team assesses partnership alignment and grants school approval to proceed with application.
- NAF Review Team schedules a virtual meeting with approved applicants to review the Fast Track process including a 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 provisional score of 15 or higher to continue with the application 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 assesses the submitted documentation and notifies applicant of next steps.

Adjustments & Clarification (Day 46 – Day 60)

- If needed, the applicant makes any necessary adjustments to their online Assessment based on feedback from the initial review.
- A 15-day period is provided to finalize this step.

Membership Agreement & Fees (Day 61 – Day 75)

- The applicant expedites the signing of a NAF Membership Service Agreement to formalize the partnership, signify their commitment to the academy development plan, and initiate invoicing.
- A \$4,000 application fee must be paid prior to the collaborative validation meeting.
- NAF Review Team coordinates scheduling for a virtual collaborative validation meeting.

Collaborative Validation Meeting (Day 76 – Day 90)

- The application process concludes with a virtual validation meeting where both parties discuss alignment of current practices with NAF's 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 Fast Track Assessment results serve as a guide to modify the action plan during the Launch Year.
- A \$2,000 annual membership fee is due at the time of the academy's launch to access membership benefits.
- 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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