# [Academy] at [High School] Joins National Network

*NAF’s Newest Members Will Be a Part of a Movement to Ensure That All*

*High School Students are College, Career, and Future Ready*

[date, location] – [name of high school] has completed [NAF’s Year of Planning (YOP) or Fast Track] program and is ready to open its doors as a NAF Academy of [insert career pathway] in the [fall of 2022].

The (YOP or Fast Track) process aligns high school programs and resources to start a career academy successfully. NAF works to ensure all stakeholders develop a lasting relationship with academies and are well-trained and confident in implementing NAF’s educational design. The process establishes a sustainable foundation for a high-quality academy, creating a shared vision and mission to fulfill the school and community goals and ensure NAF’s standards of practice are in place before an academy opens in its Launch Year.

High schools enrolled in NAF’s [YOP or Fast Track] program gain access to an assessment process that informs and directs the work of advance program planning and development. NAF provides guided technical assistance, professional development, a full suite of resources, and NAF-developed, industry-validated curriculum to support the academy development process.

**\*\*Please see below for career pathway descriptions and insert the appropriate one (or more) based on your high school.**

The **Academy of Engineering** curriculum explores principles of engineering and provides content in the fields of electronics, biotech, aerospace, civil engineering, and architecture. Academies use curriculum from Project Lead The Way, Inc. (PLTW), The STEM Academy, or Paxton/Patterson. They also benefit from support provided by National Action Council for Minorities in Engineering (NACME).

The **Academy of Finance** curriculum covers banking and credit, financial planning, global finance, securities, insurance, accounting, and economics. The Academy of Finance curriculum and certification is validated by the Council for Economic Education.

The **Academy of Health Sciences** curriculum includes courses on biotechnology, anatomy, physiology, and global health. Academies may use Biomedical curriculum from Project Lead the Way Inc. (PLTW) or the Health Sciences Careers curriculum from Paxton-Patterson. HOSA—Future Health Professionals also provides opportunities for students to build college and career-readiness skills. The National Consortium for Health Science Education provides an online module for work-based learning.

The **Academy of Hospitality & Tourism** curriculum includes courses on event planning, customer service, geography for tourism, hospitality marketing, and sustainable tourism. The curriculum has received industry validation from the Global Travel and Tourism Partnership.

The **Academy of Information Technology** curriculum covers computer networking, systems, database design, digital video production, graphic design, web design, and programming. In addition, Juniper Networks has agreed upon a program of study, linked to NAF assessments, that will qualify students for its professional training program and earn a Juniper certificate. Academies may also use computer science curriculum from Project Lead the Way, Inc. (PLTW) and select courses from Cisco.

[Include an optional quote here from teacher, principal, academy lead on what the academy will contribute to the school experience and offer to the students].

NAF Chief Executive Officer, Lisa Dughi, said, “Congratulations to the newest members of the NAF family – our YOP and Fast Track academies! Even with the uncertainty of the last few years, your commitment, perseverance, and incredible efforts have enabled more students to take part in the NAF academy experience and become college, career, and future ready. You should be so proud, and we can’t wait to support your journeys!”

**About NAF**

NAF is a national network of education, business, and community leaders who work together to ensure high school students are college, career, and future ready. NAF’s educational design is uniquely comprehensive in its approach to skill development, enabling students of all backgrounds to participate in a meaningful education and gives businesses the opportunity to shape America’s future workforce by transforming the learning environment to integrate STEM infused, career-relevant curricula and work-based learning experiences, including internships.

NAF has grown from one NAF Academy of Finance in New York City to hundreds of academies across the country focusing on growing industries including finance, hospitality & tourism, information technology, engineering, and health sciences; and support programs of study that are aligned with the National Career Clusters Framework. During the 2021-22 school year, over 120,000 students attended 618 NAF academies across 35 states, plus DC, Puerto Rico, and the US Virgin Islands. In 2021, NAF academies reported 99% of seniors graduated with 87% of graduates planning to go to college. For more information, please visit: <http://naf.org/>