

NAF ACADEMY OF HEALTH SCIENCES

NAF's Academy of Health Sciences addresses the critical achievement gap in STEM fields by developing a pipeline of students prepared to pursue health-related degrees and professions in one of the fastest growing sectors of the economy.

HISTORY AND IMPACT

The healthcare industry is projected to generate 5 million new jobs between 2012 and 2022. Launched in the 2011-2012 school year, the NAF Academy of Health Sciences (AOHS) addresses the stark need to better prepare and train future healthcare professionals by providing young people with a STEM-infused education using healthcare career paths as a vehicle for providing relevance. Today, there are 11,529 students in 79 academies across 17 states preparing for careers in the healthcare industry.

CURRICULUM

AOHS curricula introduces students to health career possibilities through a series of career exploration courses. All courses use project-based learning techniques with an emphasis on strengthening literacy, project management, leadership, and team building skills while fostering creativity and innovation. The curricula is vetted by industry professionals to ensure content is current and relevant.

NAF courses include: Health Careers Exploration, Foundations of Anatomy and Physiology I & II, Principles of Biotechnology, and Global Health. NAF has partnered with Project Lead the Way (PLTW) to offer supplemental curriculum options for Academies of Health Sciences at an added cost. Academies can use PLTW's biomedical sequence in place of NAF's curricula or create a modified program using two years of PLTW's curricula

followed by two years of NAF's curricula. Academies may offer specialized courses, state-level certifications, special projects, or early college programs.

COLLEGE AND CAREER READINESS

In addition to studying career-focused curricula and working on collaborative projects, AOHS students gain critical career knowledge through a series of work-based learning activities both inside and outside of the classroom including job shadowing events, mock interviews, résumé writing workshops, and the culminating experience—a paid internship. Business partners work with educators to provide these opportunities. By serving on advisory boards and as mentors, business partners provide a real world connection that helps students understand the pathways to career success.

NAFTrack Certification, NAF's student certification assessment system, validates successful course completion, projects, and internships. By receiving a passing score on end-of-course exams and satisfactory scores on culminating project and internship assessments, students earn the NAFTrack Certification signifying to post-secondary institutions and employers that they are both college and career ready. With this credential, graduates can benefit from NAFTrack Certified Hiring, a new initiative with some of America's top companies to give special consideration to these graduates for job opportunities and other career support.

Graduates of NAF academies complete college faster, earn more, and have stronger ties to their communities than their peers. NAF's 97% senior graduation rate is a testament to this effort.



According to the Bureau of Labor Statistics, occupations and industries related to healthcare are projected to add the most jobs between 2012 and 2022. Employment in healthcare support occupations is expected to grow by 28.1% and healthcare practitioners and technical occupations are projected to grow 21.5% by 2022.

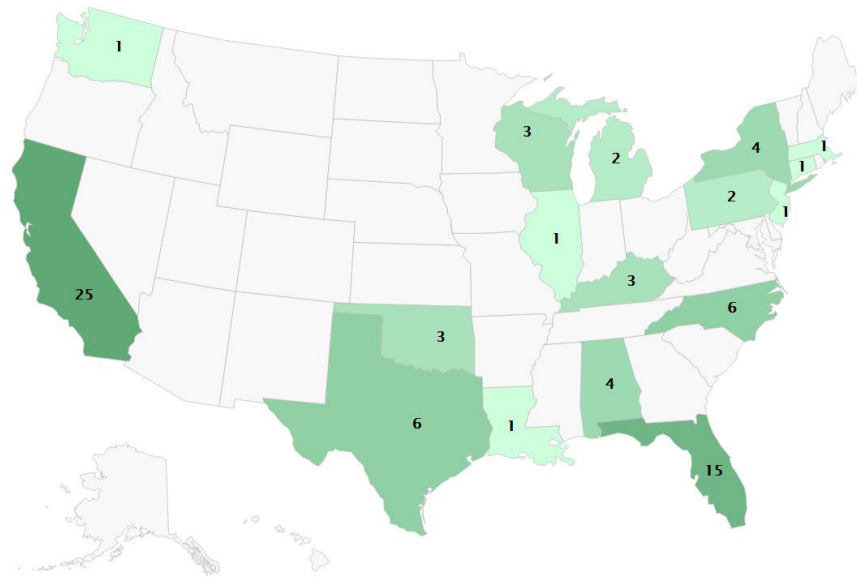


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2014-2015 School Year

NETWORK

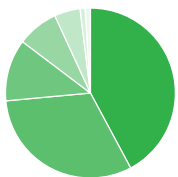
79 academies
+58% from last year



17 states
:
highest concentration of academies
32% California
19% Florida
8% North Carolina
8% Texas

46 districts
:
highest concentration of academies
6% Miami-Dade
5% Charlotte
5% Dallas
5% Broward
5% Tulare County

STUDENTS



11,529 students
+63% from last year
:
43% Black/African-American
32% Hispanic/Latino
12% White
8% Asian
5% Other/Multi-Racial
1% Pacific Islander
<1% Native American/Alaska Native

77% of students qualify for free and reduced price lunch

13% are English Language Learners

OUTCOMES



95% of seniors graduated



96% of graduates plan to go to college

50% plan to attend a 2-year college
44% plan to attend a 4-year college
2% plan to obtain a technical degree

ADVISORY BOARD MEMBERS

840 advisory board members

INTERNSHIPS

532 internships (2013-2014)