CONGRADULATIONS!

Dear graduate,

Congratulations!

You have successfully completed high school and are ready to begin the next chapter of your life! On top of graduating, you have differentiated yourself by being a NAF graduate. Whether you're going off to college to pursue a post-secondary degree or getting a jump-start into a career, we hope you take the tools and skills you learned from NAF with you.

The NAF curriculum, your internships, and your other work-based learning experiences have set you up for limitless future possibilities. Do not underestimate how far ahead of your peers you are because of your NAF education. Right now, the world is yours!

We know that you are headed for a bright future. While you may be graduating from your NAF academy today, your NAF experience isn't over. You have many tools at your disposal, along with access to a national network of educators, business partners, and fellow alumni who will continue to support you.

As you transition from NAF students into NAF alumni, remember to stay connected to the network! Make sure you fill out the student survey and provide a personal email where we can continue to send you NAF updates and alumni offerings. Follow @NAFCareerAcads on social media to be the first to hear about initiatives and events. Alumni have access to numerous opportunities after high school, including the chance to sit on an advisory board, participate in paid college internships, inspire students by submitting a story or being a guest speaker at a NAF academy, attending alumni events, and other perks. This graduation packet contains information on how to stay in touch and get involved.

Thank you for putting your best foot forward. We can't wait to see the great things you accomplish.

Cheers,

JD Hoye
CEO, NAF

Be sure your contact information is up to date to receive our free benefits. Click here to visit naf.org/join and complete the form with your personal email.

Click here for a video from the Alumni Leadership Council

GET INVOLVED

The vast alumni network can provide lifelong opportunities and friendship to those who stay connected. If you want to get involved or even give back to a new class of NAF students, fill out this **quick form** to stay in touch and indicate your interest. Here are some ways you can get involved:

1 Share your story with us. If you're making a difference or doing something special, we want to feature you! You can submit your story or give a shout out to another NAF alumnus at **naf.org/alumnistory**!

2 Attend a NAF alumni event! We regularly email our alumni and post to Instagram to let them know about events in their area. If you're interested in attending an alumni event, make sure your information is up to date so we can keep you in the loop!

3 Be a guest speaker at a NAF academy! Some of our most successful alumni events have been classroom visits. NAF students are eager to hear from alumni, so expect a Q&A session filled with insightful questions. NAF can help organize details of a classroom visit - email **alumni@naf.org** and let us know you're interested!

4 Advocate for NAF in your community and in your workplace! As a NAF alumnus, you are living proof that work-based learning and high school internships help students succeed. You are our best spokespeople! So when you have the opportunity to advocate for NAF, whether it be at a job, an internship, a professional organization, or a college club, take that opportunity! Share what made NAF special to you, and encourage those who are interested to get involved, too! Email **alumni@naf.org** for tips and tools to help you be a NAF advocate.

If you get involved, you could speak at our annual conference, NAF Next ...

... be a guest speaker at a NAF classroom and inspire current students ...

... or attend an alumni event!

WHAT NEXT? THE ALUMNI LEADERSHIP COUNCIL SHARES TIPS ON ENTERING COLLEGE AND THE WORKFORCE

The Alumni Leadership Council (ALC) is comprised of NAF graduates who have stayed connected with NAF and want to give back. They wanted to share a few pieces of advice for you, whether you're attending college or entering the workforce!

If you're heading off to college ...

Natasha Ghatak Singh
Academy of Finance, 2002
Marriott International
ALC Chair

Take advantage of taking classes that you find interesting, not just in your field of study. It will help you enjoy learning, become well-rounded and expand your mind. Special hint - audit these classes!

The easiest and best thing you can do is familiarize yourself with all of the resources your institution has to offer (counseling services, tutoring, writing/math centers, etc.) and then USE THEM!

Shatiek Gatlin
Academy of Finance, 2012
Nielsen
ALC Vice Chair

Jackie Burgos
Academy of Finance, 2004 Viacom

Don't forget to fill out your FAFSA! It's the most important financial document to most schools when they determine your financial aid. **FAFSA is due on June 30th.**

Introduce yourself to your professors and make sure to attend office hours. The relationships you make with the educators at your school will help you as you network, find jobs, and apply to graduate school!

Josuel Plascencia
Academy of Finance, 2013
Forefront

If you're entering the workforce ...

Erich de la Fuente
Academy of Hospitality and Tourism, 1989
Llorente & Cuenca

Be extremely detailed on all assignments and manage your time efficiently. Don't use your email inbox as a to-do list - find another way to stay organized and on top of the tasks you need to finish.

Don't "fake it till you make it" - ask for help if you don't understand something. You don't want your boss to find out later that you've been doing something wrong because you were too afraid to ask for help!

Jason Wynne Hughes
Academy of Finance, 2000
African Diaspora Consortium

Connor Nolan
Academy of Finance, 2011
Daniel Gale Sotheby's International Realty

Never throw out a business card or burn a bridge. You never know when or who will help you advance in life. When someone reaches out to connect or network, take advantage of that opportunity.

Always bring your authentic self to the table. You are uniquely made and opportunities will arise once you begin to share that uniqueness with the world.

Antonio Smith
Academy of Finance, 2014
Sherman Capital Markets

NAF BE FUTURE READY

STAY IN TOUCH

There are tons of opportunities for NAF alumni to attend events, win scholarships, participate in contests, or even gain job opportunities from our business partners. To get the most out of your NAF experience, make sure you take advantage of these opportunities by staying in touch!

- Follow us on Instagram
- Like Us on Facebook
- Join the Alumni LinkedIn Group

Check out some of the pictures we've recently featured on social media!

Congratulations! You did it!

We can't wait to see what you'll do next.

Follow @NAFCareerAcads