NAF APPROACH

NAF’s educational design focuses on connecting the classroom to the workplace by integrating career-focused curricula and authentic learning projects into the traditional high school experience and offering real-world application opportunities. With a rigorous program of study and a progressive continuum of activities designed to build career awareness, exploration, and preparation, students gain the skills and knowledge needed to make informed choices and be successful in their future careers.

INDUSTRY NEED

Employment in healthcare occupations is projected to grow 16 percent from 2020 to 2030 due to COVID-19. The growth is much faster than the average for all occupations, adding about 2.6 million new jobs, more than any other occupational group. Despite this projected growth, hospital employment is down almost 100,000 employees from pre-pandemic levels leading to an even greater demand for healthcare workers than expected.

CURRICULUM

NAF’s Future Ready Learning hosts a wide array of instructional content vetted by industry experts, post-secondary instructors, and professional organizations. The Academy of Health Sciences curriculum includes courses in anatomy and physiology, biotechnology, global health, and health careers and on-demand resources from Harvard LabXchange.

Essential partners supporting the NAF Academy of Health Sciences curriculum include Harvard LabXchange (LXC), National Consortium for Health Science Education (NCHSE), HOSA - Future Health Professionals, Optum, and Applied Education Systems (AES).

WORK-BASED LEARNING

Business professionals play a significant role in helping students see the connections between high school and the world of work. NAF collaborates with major corporations, post-secondary institutions, and local companies to provide career readiness and work-based learning experiences throughout the academy experience.

These activities enable students to connect directly with professionals in health sciences to learn first-hand about careers in the industry and the skills needed to thrive in health careers. Adults serve as role models and mentors to students, guiding them to grow their business acumen and technical knowledge through a continuum of interactions. Businesses that collaborate with NAF academies play an active and integral role in shaping the future workforce and building a talent pipeline.
ACADEMY OF HEALTH SCIENCES

DATA AT A GLANCE

19,897 STUDENTS

85 ACADEMIES

16 STATES

40 DISTRICTS

NAF PREPARES STUDENTS TO #BEFUTUREREADY

96% of students are females and/or ethnic minorities

71% MALE

29% FEMALE

<1% GENDER NON-CONFORMING OR UNKNOWN

Hispanic/Latino 49%
Black/African American 26%
White 13%
Asian 6%
Other/Multi-Racial 4%
Pacific Islander 1%
Native American/Alaska Native 1%
Unknown <1%

99% OF SENIORS GRADUATED

74% ELIGIBLE FOR FREE/REDUCED PRICE LUNCH

21% ENGLISH LANGUAGE LEARNERS

32% SENIORS WITH INTERNSHIPS

89% COLLEGE-BOUND GRADUATES

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