

NAF's Academies of Information Technology prepare students for careers in programming, database administration, web design and management, digital networks, and other areas in the expanding digital workplace.

HISTORY AND IMPACT

In 2000, in response to the dot-com boom, NAF launched the Academy of Information Technology (AOIT) in 12 high schools, with support from AT&T, Alcatel-Lucent, Verizon, Hewlett-Packard Company, Oracle Corporation, and United Technologies Corporation. Since then, AOIT has grown to serve 21,027 students in 130 academies across 63 districts in 21 states, including DC, in the 2016-2017 school year. Eighty percent of these students are female and ethnic minorities and 74% are eligible for free and reduced price lunch.

With computer and mobile applications playing an increasing role in the economy, students participate in classes that provide them with the opportunity to learn highly marketable skills.

CURRICULUM

AOIT curricula engages students 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 curriculum is vetted by industry professionals to ensure that the content is current and relevant.

AOIT courses include the Principles of Information Technology, Computer Networking, Computer Systems, Database Design, Digital Video Production, Programming, and Web Design.

NAF has partnered with Project Lead the Way (PLTW) and Cisco to offer supplemental curriculum options at an additional cost for Academies of Information Technology.

Project Lead the Way's Computer Science curriculum includes Introduction to Computer Science, Computer Science and Software Engineering, Computer Science Applications, Cybersecurity, and Computational Problem Solving. NAF has approved Cisco courses select beginner and intermediate level courses from the Cisco Networking Academy.

Students complete at least four NAF courses or the equivalent by graduation.

COLLEGE AND CAREER READINESS

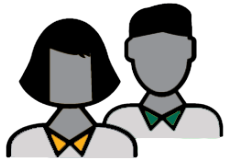
In addition to studying career-focused curriculum and working on collaborative projects, AOIT students gain critical career knowledge through a series of work-based learning experiences both inside and outside of the classroom. These activities include job shadowing, mock interviews, resume writing workshops, and culminate with a paid internship. Local business partners work with educators to provide these opportunities to round out students' education. By serving on advisory boards and as mentors, business partners make the important real world connection for students, helping them understand the connection between their education and future success.

NAFTrack Certification, a 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 NAFTrack Certification - signifying to post-secondary institutions and employers that they are both college and career ready.

Graduates of NAF academies complete college faster, earn more, and have stronger ties to their communities than their peers. NAF's 96% senior graduation rate is a testament to this effort.



From 2014-2024, the Bureau of Labor Statistics projects that employment of computer and IT occupations will grow 12% - faster than the average for all occupations. According to the Department of Labor, women comprise 47% of the total US labor force, but only 26% of people employed in computer and mathematical occupations are women. NAF is working to recruit a diverse student body in information technology academies to fill this gap.



21,027 STUDENTS



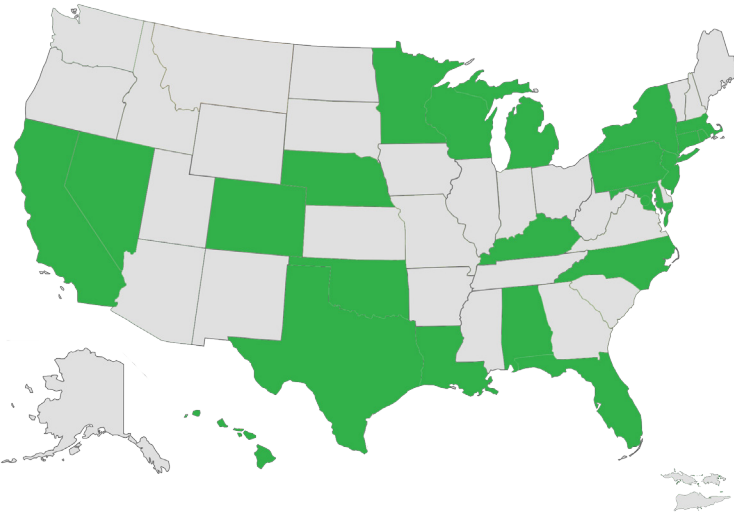
130 ACADEMIES

21

STATES including DC

highest concentration of academies

- Florida 41
- California 24
- North Carolina 10
- New York 10
- Texas 8



63

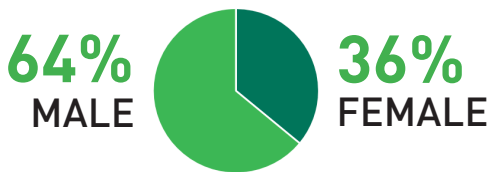
DISTRICTS

highest concentration of academies

- 15 Miami-Dade
- 11 Orange County
- 8 Dallas
- 8 New York City
- 6 Montgomery County

1,325 ADVISORY BOARD MEMBERS

NAF STUDENTS



80% of students are females and/or ethnic minorities

- 39% Hispanic/Latino
- 28% Black/African American
- 22% White
- 8% Asian
- 3% Other/Multi-racial
- 1% Native American/Alaska Native
- 1% Pacific Islander

74% Low-Income Students based on eligibility for free & reduced price lunch

20% English Language Learners

OUTCOMES

97% of seniors graduated

92% college-bound graduates

17% graduated with an internship