



Data Center and Academy Assessment FAQ 2020-2021

Section 1: NAF Network Key Dates

Section 2: COVID-19 (Temporary) Process Modifications

[What are the modifications to the academy Quality Process for 2020-21?](#)

[Which internship experiences count toward NAFTrack Certification for 2020-21?](#)

Section 3: Data Center

[When does the Data Center open and close this year?](#)

[Which academies participate in the Data Center?](#)

[Data Center Important Reminder](#)

Section 4: Academy Assessment

[Which academies participate in the Academy Assessment?](#)

[Who fills out the Academy Assessment?](#)

[How is the Academy Assessment accessed, and can it be shared with review team members?](#)

[What is the required evidence for the Academy Assessment?](#)

[What is new in the Academy Assessment this year?](#)

[What are the Model and Distinguished thresholds for this year?](#)

[What is the Academy Assessment scoring process?](#)

[Are there expectations for using the Action Plan this year?](#)

Section 5: Roll Forward

[Which academies can Roll Forward?](#)

Section 1: NAF Network Key Dates

DATE	ACTIVITY
May 2020	Graduation Profile in Data Center opens early to enter info for 2020 grads; Auto populates if the student completes Student Survey in NAFTrack by June 2, 2020.
Sept 21, 2020	Data Center (DC), Academy Assessment (AA), and Roll Forward open.
Sept 21, 2020	Updated Data-at-a-Glance (DAG) tool available in ASH for academies to track Data Center and NAFTrack data; DC & AA overview webinars posted in ASH.
Nov 6, 2020	Deadline for data entries in the Data Center and NAFTrack for academies intending to Roll Forward. Academies not meeting the deadline forfeit Roll Forward status and must complete the AA.
Dec 4, 2020	Data Center and NAFTrack data deadline for academies <u>NOT</u> Rolling Forward.
Dec 4, 2020	Academy Assessment <i>provisional score</i> deadline. Portfolio Managers begin to contact academies to address inconsistencies in evidence submissions.
Jan 15, 2021	Academy Assessment <i>final score</i> deadline. AA's must be finalized by this date.
Jan 11 – Mar 5, 2021	Quality Review visits conducted by NAF staff, distinguished academy leaders, and external consultants.
Mar 31, 2021	Quality Levels released in ASH.

Section 2: COVID-19 (Temporary) Process Modifications

What are the modifications to the academy Quality Process for 2020-21? ([return to top](#))

- All academies that earned a level of Member or higher in 2019-20 may opt to Roll Forward and maintain their 2019-20 academy quality level for 2020-21 if they meet the following criteria:
 - Member and Certified academies must complete the Data Center by **November 6, 2020** to roll forward.
 - Model and Distinguished academies must complete the Data Center by **November 6, 2020**, and meet all [thresholds](#) except enrollment. *A temporary threshold exception applies to incoming grade-level enrollment only for 2020-21 academies rolling forward.*
- Completion of the Academy Assessment (AA) is optional for academies that earned Member level or higher in 2019-20 if the Data Center is completed by **November 6, 2020**.
- Completion of the AA is optional for 2020-21 Launch Year academies.
- 2019-20 Launch Year academies that did not earn a Member level or higher must complete the 2020-21 AA but may either accept or decline quality level posting.
- The deadline for academies to complete the AA and receive a *provisional score* is **December 4, 2020**.
- To advance from Certified to Model or Model to Distinguished for 2020-21, academies must meet the designated AA score and threshold requirements, including enrollment.

Which internship experiences count toward NAFTrack Certification for 2020-21? ([return to top](#))

Internship experiences that count toward the NAFTrack Certification internship requirement for 2020-21 include:

- 1) Internships started **before August 1, 2019** that were paid, 120 hours and had a passing internship assessment
- 2) Internships correctly entered into NAFTrack that had a start date between **August 1, 2019** and **March 15, 2020** regardless of the number of hours, paid status, or internship assessment completion status
- 3) Internships and temporarily approved *Alternative Experience* options completed between **April 2020** and **August 2021** that meet the following requirements:
 - 80+ hours (or two 40-hour experiences)
 - Paid, compensated, or volunteer
 - Direct supervision by an accountable adult who is not the student's teacher
 - Completion of the NAFTrack Internship Assessment by the student's supervisor (not teacher, parent, or guardian) at the end of the internship or approved alternative experience

Data for the eligible internship experiences listed above automatically populate designated fields in the Data Center and Academy Assessment.

Section 3: Data Center

When does the Data Center open and close this year? ([return to top](#))

The Data Center and Academy Assessment both open on **September 21, 2020**, in the Academy Support Hub (ASH). The Data Center completion date for Roll Forward academies is **November 6, 2020**. The completion date for academies participating in the Academy Assessment is **December 4, 2020** for both the Data Center and the AA.

Which academies participate in the Data Center? [\(return to top\)](#)

All NAF academies: open academies, roll forward eligible academies, launch year academies, including fast track academies, complete the Data Center. Data Center entries are optional for Year of Planning (YOP) academies.

Data Center Important Reminder: [\(return to top\)](#)

The Data Center and Academy Assessment open at the same time. You must complete the Data Center and NAFTrack before completing the Academy Assessment. The automatically populated selections in the Academy Assessment do not populate until you finalize the Data Center and NAFTrack entries.

Section 4: Academy Assessment

Which academies participate in the Academy Assessment? [\(return to top\)](#)

All open academies fill out the Academy Assessment. Exceptions:

- Eligible Roll Forward academies that meet the Data Center completion date (**November 6, 2020**), are exempt from completing the Academy Assessment.
- YOP academies participate in a process with specific requirements. For more information, go to ASH.
- Launch year academies (including 2020-21 FastTrack academies) have the option in 2020-21 to participate or not participate in the Academy Assessment. In both cases, these academies must complete the Data Center and an action plan.

Who fills out the Academy Assessment? [\(return to top\)](#)

The self-assessment process is a team activity that involves the academy director/site coordinator, academy team, district and school leaders, and advisory board members who work together to complete the assessment. Enter the names of team members completing the assessment on the Review Team Members page in the AA.

How is the Academy Assessment accessed, and can it be shared with review team members? [\(return to top\)](#)

There is the **online version** that the academy director and site coordinator access in ASH. The online version provides the final assessment score and contains Data Center and NAFTrack data entries for your academy. Select PDF print version to print the online version for sharing with the review team members.

A **sample version** is available to review the standards with your team, and it is accessible via ASH>Educational Design>Continuous Improvement. This version is not specific to your academy and is not an alternative for submission.

What is the required evidence for the Academy Assessment? [\(return to top\)](#)

Automatically Populated: Some evidence automatically populate with data from Data Center and NAFTrack, so it is critical to complete all entries in the Data Center and NAFTrack before completing the AA to ensure your evidence is accurate and up to date.










Evidence Templates: Some Academy Assessment strategic actions have evidence templates. Download the template using the link provided in the AA, fill out the information, and upload the template directly into the AA for the designated strategic action.

Evidence Tip: After uploading evidence files, check to ensure that the files uploaded correctly. There is a thorough review of all academy evidence before finalizing the Academy Assessment and before a Quality Review visit.

What is new in the Academy Assessment this year? [\(return to top\)](#)

Number	Standard	Description/Change																				
1.2.a	Personalized Environment	<p>1.2.a Evidence Template available. The academy fosters a personalized environment that promotes student success and attainment of college and career goals by (select all that apply):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><input type="checkbox"/> Connecting learning to students’ interests, abilities, and aspirations.<input type="checkbox"/> Implementing academy structures that encourage peer relationships and develop a sense of belonging among academy members.<input type="checkbox"/> Developing personalized academy learning plans that the academy team regularly reviews to assess student progress towards college and career goals.<input type="checkbox"/> Engaging a network of teachers, family, mentors, and advisory board members who connect with academy students to provide support for accomplishing their college and career goals. <p><i>This strategic action is new. Last year’s 1.2.a is now a part of 3.1.c – Program of Study/Integration. Reasons for this adjustment include 1) to remove redundant data entry required on the Teachers & Courses page in the Data Center, 2) to create a better measurement for "Personalized Environment," and 3) to establish expectations for career-themed integration and interdisciplinary projects. An updated evidence template outlines expectations and examples to meet each selection in the current 1.2.a.</i></p>																				
3.1.c	Program of Study/Integration	<p>3.1.c Evidence Template Available. Discussed during a Quality Review Visit. Career-Themed Integration¹³ is a learning strategy used to integrate the academy’s career theme into designated core subjects or other disciplines. An interdisciplinary project¹⁴ is the primary Project-Based Learning¹⁵ (PBL) strategy used to incorporate authentic, real-life, and career-related issues in non-academy courses. The academy facilitates career-themed integration through (check all that apply):</p> <table><thead><tr><th></th><th>9th</th><th>10th</th><th>11th</th><th>12th</th></tr></thead><tbody><tr><td>Ongoing collaboration among teachers that fosters integration for students in</td><td><input type="checkbox"/></td><td><input type="checkbox"/></td><td><input type="checkbox"/></td><td><input type="checkbox"/></td></tr><tr><td>Incorporating career-themed content or skills into non-academy courses in</td><td><input type="checkbox"/></td><td><input type="checkbox"/></td><td><input type="checkbox"/></td><td><input type="checkbox"/></td></tr><tr><td>Implementing for at least 10-days during the course/semester, interdisciplinary PBL activities that provide solutions to relevant career-themed issues in</td><td><input type="checkbox"/></td><td><input type="checkbox"/></td><td><input type="checkbox"/></td><td><input type="checkbox"/></td></tr></tbody></table> <p><i>This strategic action combines last year’s 1.2.a and 3.1.c to establish expectations for career-themed integration and interdisciplinary projects. An updated evidence template is available.</i></p>		9 th	10 th	11 th	12 th	Ongoing collaboration among teachers that fosters integration for students in	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Incorporating career-themed content or skills into non-academy courses in	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Implementing for at least 10-days during the course/semester, interdisciplinary PBL activities that provide solutions to relevant career-themed issues in	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	9 th	10 th	11 th	12 th																		
Ongoing collaboration among teachers that fosters integration for students in	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>																		
Incorporating career-themed content or skills into non-academy courses in	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>																		
Implementing for at least 10-days during the course/semester, interdisciplinary PBL activities that provide solutions to relevant career-themed issues in	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>																		
4.2.a 4.2.b	Internship Completion	<p><i>Due to COVID-19, NAF modified the internship requirements for strategic actions 4.2.a and 4.2.b. See the COVID-19 Process Modifications section for a description of the internship experiences that count for NAFTrack Certification for 2020-21.</i></p>																				
4.3.a 4.3.b REMOVED	Student Career Goals	<p><i>For the 2020-21 Academy Assessment, there is no longer a non-scored ^{my}NAFTrack strategic action. In the future, there may be alternative strategic actions to measure Student Career Goals.</i></p>																				
Glossary/Definitions & Evidence Templates		<p><i>There are updates to several Evidence Templates and the Glossary/Definition section.</i></p>																				

What are the Model and Model-Distinguished thresholds for this year? ([return to top](#))

Strategic Action	Model Threshold	Distinguished Threshold
<p>1.1.b Model Threshold. Must also be met for Distinguished and automatically populated from Data Center and NAFTrack. Recruitment efforts result in student enrollment numbers that increase each year until threshold criteria are met.</p> <p>Academy program status:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="radio"/> Academy program is fully operational (Students enroll in grades 11-12 for a 2-year program, grades 10-12 for a 3-year program, and grades 9-12 for a 4-year program). <input type="radio"/> Program is not fully operational. <p>The academy:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="radio"/> Enrolls 200 (4-year program), 150 (3-year program), or 100 (2-year program) students in a single NAF academy with at least 20 students per grade level. <input type="radio"/> Enrolls 20% of school enrollment in one or more NAF academies with each academy enrolling at least 20 students per grade level. <input type="radio"/> Has an Enrollment Waiver⁵. <input type="radio"/> None of the above 	 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A temporary threshold exception applies to <u>incoming grade-level enrollment only</u> for 2020-21 academies that are <u>rolling forward</u> as Model or Distinguished. • To advance from Certified to Model or Model to Distinguished for 2020-21, academies must meet designated AA scores and all threshold requirements, including enrollment. 	
<p>2.1.a Model Threshold. Must also be met for Distinguished and automatically populated from Data Center. Advisory board membership includes at least ten (10) members representing business, industry, government, community, and postsecondary education leaders. The advisory board membership includes (select all that apply):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> At least ten (10) members. <input type="checkbox"/> At least 80% business, industry, government, community, and postsecondary education leaders. <input type="checkbox"/> None of the above 		
<p>3.2.c Model Threshold (11-20%), Distinguished (21% and higher) and automatically populated from NAFTrack. Academy students must achieve NAFTrack Certification to enhance their college and career readiness. The proportion of 2019-20 seniors who achieved NAFTrack Certification is:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="radio"/> 71-100% <input type="radio"/> 41-70% <input type="radio"/> 21-40% <input type="radio"/> 11-20% <input type="radio"/> 1-10% <input type="radio"/> Less than 1% 	 11-20%	 21%+
<p>4.1.b Model Threshold. Must also be met for Distinguished and automatically populated from Data Center. Work-based learning (WBL) experiences implemented in the academy include career awareness, exploration, and preparation activities that build in sophistication, duration, and intensity. The academy provides:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="radio"/> All three types of WBL activities <input type="radio"/> Two types of WBL activities <input type="radio"/> One type of WBL activity <input type="radio"/> None of the above 		
<p>4.2.b Model Threshold (11-20%), Distinguished (21% and higher), and automatically populated from NAFTrack. The proportion of 2019-20 seniors who met the NAFTrack Certification internship requirements is:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="radio"/> 71-100% <input type="radio"/> 41-70% <input type="radio"/> 21-40% <input type="radio"/> 11-20% <input type="radio"/> 1-10% <input type="radio"/> Less than 1% 	 11-20%	 21%+

What is the Academy Assessment scoring process? [\(return to top\)](#)

Your academy receives a **provisional score** when you submit the AA that is due by **December 4, 2020**. Your portfolio manager contacts you as needed regarding changes or clarifications to evidence and strategic action selections. Your portfolio manager issues a **final score** by **January 15, 2021**.

NAF Educational Design Level: Measure of Fidelity of Implementation

Level	Criteria: Academy Assessment Score Only
Under Review	Overall score of 1-14.99
Member	Overall score of 15-19.99
Certified	Overall score of 20-24.99. Overall score of 25-30, but does not meet the required score of 20 in each element. May not meet all Model thresholds.
Level	Criteria: AA Score, Thresholds, and Quality Review Visit
Model	Overall score of 25-30 and 20 in each element and meets all Model thresholds in AA and Model criteria during an on-site or virtual Quality Review visit.
Distinguished (subset of Model)	Meets all Model-level criteria (above) and all additional Distinguished thresholds.

Are there expectations for using the Action Plan this year? [\(return to top\)](#)

Completing an action plan (either NAF's or one provided by the district) is a high priority for NAF academies. The NAF action plan tool is available in ASH and is accessible directly from the Academy Assessment.

Section 5: Roll Forward

Which academies can Roll Forward? [\(return to top\)](#)

Roll Forward opens **September 21, 2020**.

COVID-19 (Temporary) Roll Forward Protocol for 2020-21

Member, Certified, Model and Model-Distinguished academies are eligible to Roll Forward. They maintain their 2019-20 academy quality level for 2020-21, and are not required to take the Academy Assessment if they meet the following criteria:

- Academy earned a quality level of Member or higher in 2019-20.
- Academy completes Data Center entries by **November 6, 2020**.
- Model and Model-Distinguished academies meet 2020-21 Thresholds by **November 6, 2020**. *Note: A temporary exception exists for Roll Forward academies regarding the enrollment threshold for incoming grade-level enrollment.*

The standard Roll Forward protocol resumes for the 2021-22 school year (see below).

Standard Roll Forward Protocol for 2021-22

All Certified, Model and Model-Distinguished academies are eligible to Roll Forward and are exempt from taking the Academy Assessment if they meet the following criteria:

- Academy is in year-2 or year-3 of a 3-year data cycle, which begins the year an academy takes the AA.
- Academy completes Data Center entries by the deadline date.
- Model and Model-Distinguished academies meet Thresholds by the deadline date.

After a 3-year data cycle ends, all academies, including Model-Distinguished academies, must take the Academy Assessment to begin a new 3-year data cycle.