



NAF academy students complete an intentional sequence of workbased learning activities which prepares them to make informed college and career choices and enables them to acquire necessary college and career readiness skills.

DEFINITION

Work-based learning is an instructional strategy that:

- Connects what students are learning in class with the world of work
- Involves interaction with business partners
- Provides students with career awareness, career exploration, and career preparation
- Includes a continuum of experiences
- Aligns with intentional student learning outcomes
- Prepares students for success in post-secondary education and careers
- Benefits the student, the business partner, and the high school

Work-based learning activities fall on a continuum building from career awareness, to career exploration, then finally career preparation. Students complete assignments before, during, and after work-based learning activities to help them connect their experiences to their academy courses, as well as to their own college and career options.

For nearly 40 years, best practices for seven work-based learning experiences have been used across the national network. NAF promotes the use of these activities, and variances of them, in academies.

CONTINUUM

AWARENESS
GUEST SPEAKER
WORKSITE TOUR
CAREER FAIR

EXPLORATION
INFORMATIONAL INTERVIEW
JOB SHADOW
MOCK INTERVIEW

PREPARATION
PAID INTERNSHIP

