INDUSTRY NEED
Opportunities in healthcare occupations are projected to grow 18 percent from 2016 to 2026, much faster than the average for all occupations. This is primarily due to an aging population with increasing needs for care. By 2030, nearly 20% of the U.S. population will be 65 or older. Chronic conditions, an increased focus on preventative care, medical advances, and a shortage of physicians will also contribute to the need for more professionals.

Healthcare is an industry that directly effects every person. Because of this, it is imperative that the industry diversify to represent the population. Cultural diversity in health sciences will ensure that patients’ needs are met and that treatment plans are understood.

CURRICULUM
Health sciences curriculum includes courses on biotechnology, anatomy, physiology, and global health. Academies may use curriculum from Project Lead the Way Inc. or Paxton-Patterson. In addition, NAF approves programs of study that align with NAF’s certification standards, enabling local school districts to meet the needs of their community, as well as district and state requirements.

NAF APPROACH
NAF’s educational design is focused on making connections between the classroom and the workplace by integrating career-focused curricula and projects into the traditional high school experience, coupled with opportunities for real-world application. Through a series of coursework, together with a progressive continuum of activities designed to build awareness, enable exploration, and finally prepare students for future studies and career paths, NAF students gain the skills and knowledge needed to make informed choices and be successful in their future careers.

PARTNERSHIPS
NAF works with both major corporations and local companies to ensure that the curriculum is current and relevant and to provide practical experience to students through a series of work-based learning activities. These activities enable students to connect directly with professionals in health sciences to learn first-hand about the industry, the skills needed to succeed, the expectations, and more. Business professionals serve as role models and mentors to students, guiding them to grow their business acumen, as well as technical knowledge. Businesses that work with NAF academies play an active and integral role in shaping the future workforce and building a talent pipeline that will one day soon be eligible to fill roles within their companies.

*The Bureau of Labor Statistics
ACADEMY OF HEALTH SCIENCES

2018-2019

19,788 STUDENTS

85 ACADEMIES

16 STATES

incl. DC and the US Virgin Islands

854 ADVISORY BOARD MEMBERS

highest concentration of academies

California 23
Florida 21
North Carolina 8
Texas 8
New York 4

42 DISTRICTS

highest concentration of academies

8 Dallas
6 Fresno
6 Miami
4 Broward County
4 Charlotte

NAF STUDENTS

71% FEMALE

29% MALE

96% of students are females and/or ethnic minorities

45% Hispanic/Latino
27% Black/African American
15% White
7% Asian
3% Other/Multi-racial
2% Pacific Islander
1% Native American/Alaska Native

77% Low-Income Students

based on eligibility for free & reduced price lunch

21% English Language Learners

OUTCOMES

99% of seniors graduated

88% college-bound graduates

32% seniors who had an internship