



For Immediate Release

## **NFTE Joins NAFTrack Certification**

***Award-winning NFTE entrepreneurship curriculum now available to more than 600 academies in the NAF network nationwide***

New York, NY (March 22, 2018) — [NFTE](#) (Network For Teaching Entrepreneurship) and [NAF](#) recognize how critical it is to ensure that today's high school students are not just college ready and career ready, but also future ready. Today, the two organizations announced a collaboration to bring NFTE's award-winning entrepreneurship curriculum to NAF's national network serving over 100,000 students. NFTE will amplify its commitment to support NAFTrack Certified high school students through its entrepreneurship curriculum.

NFTE's mission is to activate the entrepreneurial mindset of youth. For more than 30 years, the internationally-recognized nonprofit has worked with young people in under-resourced communities across the U.S. and abroad, helping them build business skills and lay the groundwork for a successful future. A leader in K-12 entrepreneurship education, NFTE develops innovative courses that incorporate highly engaging experiential and project-based learning with lean startup tools and practices. Collaboration with NAF will help NFTE scale its newest entrepreneurship course offerings among NAF's network of high school students.

NAF is a national nonprofit dedicated to providing students in underserved communities with quality education for college, career, and future success. Through partnerships with business, education, and community leaders, NAF transforms the high school experience by incorporating STEM-infused, industry-specific curricula and work-based learning experiences and assesses students on a broad range of college and career readiness skills. [NAFTrack Certification](#) requires careful assessment of student performance in end-of-course exams, projects, and internships. Upon successful completion of NAFTrack Certification, students are eligible for NAFTrack Certified Hiring.

NAFTrack Certified Hiring is the groundbreaking promise by a growing number of top companies, including Lenovo, Verizon, Capital One, and more, to support job applicants who have completed the NAF course of study and graduated from high school, enrolled in college, and earned NAFTrack Certification. These benefits may include pre-interview and resume support, access to paid internships, and more.

NAF President, JD Hoyer, said, "We are honored to partner with NFTE, an educational organization that is dedicated to developing students who think and act like entrepreneurs, and further our shared commitment of ensuring that all young people are

set up for success. NAF looks forward to this exciting journey together, as we work to provide more access and opportunity for our future leaders.”

“NFTE looks forward to supporting NAFTrack-certified students in achieving their college and career aspirations,” said Shawn Osborne, President and CEO of NFTE. “Through our partnership with NAF, we have the opportunity to reach even more high school students. That's very exciting because the young people we serve—now including many students at NAF academies— are part of our future workforce. It's essential that they be equipped to succeed in the 21st century innovation economy. That means not only building their business skills, but also helping them develop confidence and critical thinking skills, and, most importantly, activating their entrepreneurial mindset.”

The NFTE curriculum is now available to more than 100,000 students in NAF academies across 36 states.

### **About NFTE**

NFTE is an internationally recognized nonprofit that activates the entrepreneurial mindset in young people. Research shows that the entrepreneurial mindset—skills including innovation, self-reliance, comfort with risk, communication, and problem-solving—prepares young people for lifelong success. Equipped with the mindset, as well as the business and academic skills that NFTE teaches, NFTE students are ready to thrive in the innovation economy no matter what path they choose. NFTE focuses its work on under-resourced communities. Through its nationwide network of U.S. offices, NFTE programs reached almost 35,000 students in over 1000 schools last school year. Partnerships in eight other countries allowed NFTE to serve an additional 40,000 young people internationally. Learn more at [nfte.com](http://nfte.com).

### **About NAF**

NAF is a national network of education, business, and community leaders who work together to ensure that high school students are college, career, and future ready. NAF works with high need communities to transform the high school experience through an educational design that includes industry-specific curricula, work-based learning experiences, and relationships with business professionals, culminating in a paid internship. NAF academies fit within and enhance school systems, allowing NAF to become an integral part of a plan for higher achievement at a low cost. NAF academies focus on one of five career themes: finance, hospitality and tourism, information technology, engineering, and health sciences. During the 2017-18 school year, more than 100,000 students attended 644 NAF academies across 36 states, including DC and the US Virgin Islands. In 2017, NAF academies reported 97% of seniors graduated with 90% of graduates with post-secondary intentions. Visit [naf.org](http://naf.org) for more information.

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