



## NA4SA Academy

### For activity advisors, leadership teachers, and leadership camp/workshop personnel

The National Association for Student Activities (NA4SA) is proud to announce our new Academy program, continuing our long history of promoting student leadership and engagement. The NA4SA Academy will support adults who work with student leaders in and out of the classroom across the US, helping to professionalize student activity advising and leadership development, and giving our participants the tools, skills, knowledge, resources, and competencies they need to be successful, regardless of their role and context.

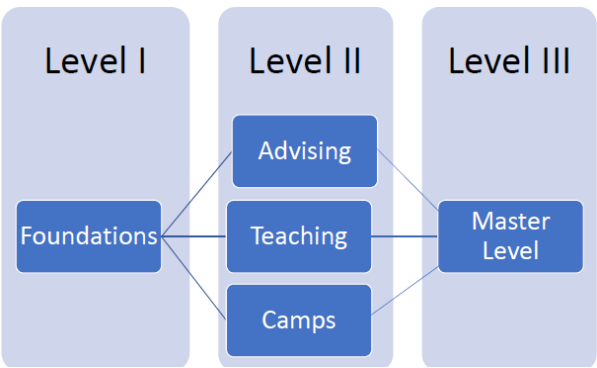
The NA4SA Academy is designed to provide support for activity advisors (regardless of their organization, or if they work with middle or high school students), leadership class teachers, and summer leadership workshop/camp staff and directors. It will be valuable no matter how much experience individuals have. The Academy will help each group excel in their role, share experiences with other individuals working in student leadership to build a national professional collaborative network they can tap into for support and advice, and provide them with the most recent scholarship in advising and leadership pedagogy.



The Academy was created with the recognition that each group has unique needs that are specific to the domain where they work, but that at the core of their work is the same goal, and that participants need both specialized knowledge pertaining to their role, as well as general knowledge about student leadership and engagement to be successful. The NA4SA Academy will both provide this foundational knowledge for everyone who works with student leaders, as well as the specialized knowledge they need to excel.

The NA4SA Academy will contain three levels. Each level will contain modules participants will work on over a 10-to-12-week period. The modules have been designed to impart the knowledge our participants need, and most of the modules will be conducted asynchronously to provide flexibility for participants. Each module will also feature a virtual meeting for participants to review the material collaboratively and to learn from one another. This programming will include topics such as:

- The history of student engagement
- The “Why” of student leadership
- The importance of effective communication
- A Strengths-based approach to student development
- Personal growth and focus
- Major contemporary leadership theories
- Identifying School & Community Needs
- Leadership From a Campus Perspective
- Training student leaders
- Knowing, being, and doing in leadership
- Leadership ethics
- Personal, organizational, and global leadership
- Diversity, Equity, Inclusion, and Belonging (DEIB) in Student Leadership



The first step is Level I, which is open to any adult working in student leadership development. In Level I, participants will learn essential knowledge on a variety of topics that is relevant to anyone working with student leaders, and individuals will be able to learn from their peers in different contexts as well. By focusing on these core, common competencies, we will be able to develop a "common language" and basic shared knowledge in student development across the various groups of our membership. Everyone who completes Level I will receive a Credly micro-credential that lists program requirements, skills focused on, and time involved. This is electronic and be easily shared, displayed and used to document professional development hours.

After completing Level I, participants will be eligible to start Level II of the Academy program, which will feature individualized pathways specifically designed for activity advisors, leadership teachers, and summer workshop/camp staff members. Individuals may elect to enroll in one, two, or all three of the Level II pathways, depending on their needs and their roles.

After completing at least one of the Level II pathways, participants will be able to apply to complete Level III. In this level, participants will demonstrate mastery both in a specific domain, as well as with their general knowledge of student engagement and leadership, and also, give back to NA4SA and others. In doing so, we will further our goal of professionalizing activity advising and camp staffing, and provide to leadership instructors the professional development they need to have the most impact.

To ensure the affordability of this program, NA4SA is offering both individual and group registration rates for Level I of the Academy.

- **Individual** = \$40, or, \$30 for attendees of the National Conference on Student Activities.
- **Group** from the same school, State Student Council Association, or State Principals Association = \$100 for three individuals.

NA4SA believes in the power of student engagement and student leadership, and we have provided support for adults working with student leaders for 50 years. This program continues NA4SA's long tradition of offering support for adults who support students in schools across the US, and we look forward to offering this new training. Further information about NA4SA, as well as how to register for the NA4SA Academy program, can be found on our website at <https://www.na4sa.org/>

Questions? Please reach out to NA4SA Educational and Engagement Coordinator Felix Yerace at [fyerace@na4sa.org](mailto:fyerace@na4sa.org)