



NA4SA Foundations of Advising Program

The National Association for Student Activities (NA4SA) is proud to announce the 2024-2025 Foundations of Advising Cohort. The Foundations of Advising program continues NA4SA's long tradition of offering support for activity advisors in schools across the US.

The purpose of the Foundations of Advising Program is to provide support and mentoring for student activity advisors in their first or second year in their role as an activity advisor or director, and an opportunity to share experiences with other new advisors, while learning from experienced advisors. This program is open to all activity advisors (student council, class council, honor society, community service and domain specific organizations, and others) at all levels (middle school and junior/senior high schools). It will be valuable no matter how much prior teaching experience advisors have, the training of their students, or the status of their organization (new or established).

Participants will be able to log into the NA4SA LMS platform at their convenience and complete monthly modules on a variety of topics important to activity advisors. This programming will include topics such as:

- Advisor goals and expectations for the year
- Understanding your role as an advisor
- The importance of effective communication
- Working with administrators & other adults
- Advisor self-care
- Developing an inclusive program
- School culture and climate
- Keeping your members motivated
- The learning experience of activity participation
- Process (the how) vs. Product (the what) in developing leaders
- Looking beyond your group
- Looking beyond your school
- Program and activity ideas

Additionally, an important goal of NA4SA is to help our members build their collaborative network. To facilitate this, participants will also have the opportunity to participate in four live, 90-minute-long sessions throughout the school year where they can meet their fellow cohort members and members of the NA4SA board, as well as participate in live learning and sharing (participants are expected to attend at least two of these sessions). Participants will be able to tap into the decades of experience and knowledge in student activities and leadership development from diverse schools across the United States through this program. Participants will also receive support in attending the National Conference on Student Activities as well as enrolling in Level I of the NA4SA Academy, and will also be assigned a mentor advisor they can reach out to during the year.

The cost for this program is \$25 per participant, which includes a year's membership in NA4SA. At the conclusion, participants will receive a Credly microcredential from NA4SA. Through a partnership with Fresno Pacific University, participants will also have the opportunity to earn one (1) graduate credit for an additional \$80.

NA4SA believes in the power of student engagement and student leadership, and we have provided support for adults working with student leaders for nearly 50 years. The Foundations of Advising Program furthers our goal of professionalizing student activity advising and building a national network of adults who are trained to support students in improving their schools and communities, and ensuring these adults have the tools, resources, and support they need to be successful in their role. We look forward to welcoming our first cohort this fall!

Further information about NA4SA, as well as how to register for the Foundations of Advising 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