

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**  
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## **National Academy Foundation Partners with International Baccalaureate to Prepare Students for College and Careers**

(April 29, 2011 New York) – The National Academy Foundation (NAF) is teaming up with International Baccalaureate (IB) to offer IB's new International Baccalaureate Career-related Certification (IBCC) to NAF students currently enrolled in a school offering IB. IB and NAF will also work together to develop college, university, and employer recognition as well as accreditation opportunities for the combined NAF/IBCC model.

With the integration of IBCC into the current NAF model, students will be given the opportunity to combine an IB program with their NAF career oriented elective courses to receive this additional certification. The IBCC uses the academic principles of the IB to effectively unite career and college readiness.

“NAF academies have career and college readiness at their core,” said Andrew Rothstein, Chief Academic Officer of NAF. “Partnering with an acclaimed expert in college preparation allows us to offer students a credential that demonstrates to colleges and employers all they have accomplished.”

IBCC's career-related courses will complement the NAF curriculum and provide an added benefit to academies of offering an additional form of certification from the traditional diploma requirements. The initial offering of this credential is targeted to schools that are already working with both IB and NAF and will help streamline their work. IB and NAF plan to expand the partnership to include new academies and schools where either IB or NAF is currently in place.

Drew Deutsch, Director of IB Americas, said “We're excited about taking our IBCC program to the next level with our NAF partnership. Students will enjoy both NAF's industry-vetted curriculum and the academic curriculum that IB is known for. This program will make students more marketable to employers and to colleges.”

“The IBCC provides an exciting opportunity for schools and colleges to be involved in the provision of a certificate that focuses on the mix of practical and academic skills needed by students in the 21st century,” Deutsch said.

### **About The National Academy Foundation (NAF)**

NAF is an acclaimed network of career-themed academies that open doors for underserved high school students to viable careers. For nearly 30 years, NAF has refined a proven model that provides young people access to industry-specific curricula, work-based learning experiences, and relationships with business professionals. NAF academies focus on one of four career themes: finance, hospitality & tourism, information technology, and engineering. Employees of more than 2,500 companies volunteer in classrooms, act as mentors, engage NAF students in paid internships, and serve on local Advisory



Boards. During the 2009-10 school years, 500 NAF academies served more than 53,000 students across 41 states, D.C., and the U.S. Virgin Islands. NAF's national graduation rate of 90% testifies to the effectiveness of this effort.

### **About the International Baccalaureate**

The International Baccalaureate (IB) is a non-profit educational foundation founded in 1968. The IB offers programs for students aged 3 to 19 which help develop the intellectual, personal, emotional and social skills to live, learn and work in a rapidly globalizing world. Currently the IB works within 3,241 schools in 141 countries and reach over 932,000 students aged 3 to 19 years.

#### **NAF Contact:**

Dana Nachbar  
646-896-3864  
[dnachbar@naf.org](mailto:dnachbar@naf.org)

#### **IB Contact:**

Sandra Coyle  
646-379-5870  
[sandra.coyle@ibo.org](mailto:sandra.coyle@ibo.org)