

ADVISORY BOARD

Employer Partner Recruitment



How many members should I have?

NAF recommends that advisory boards consist of at least 10 members and include representation from:

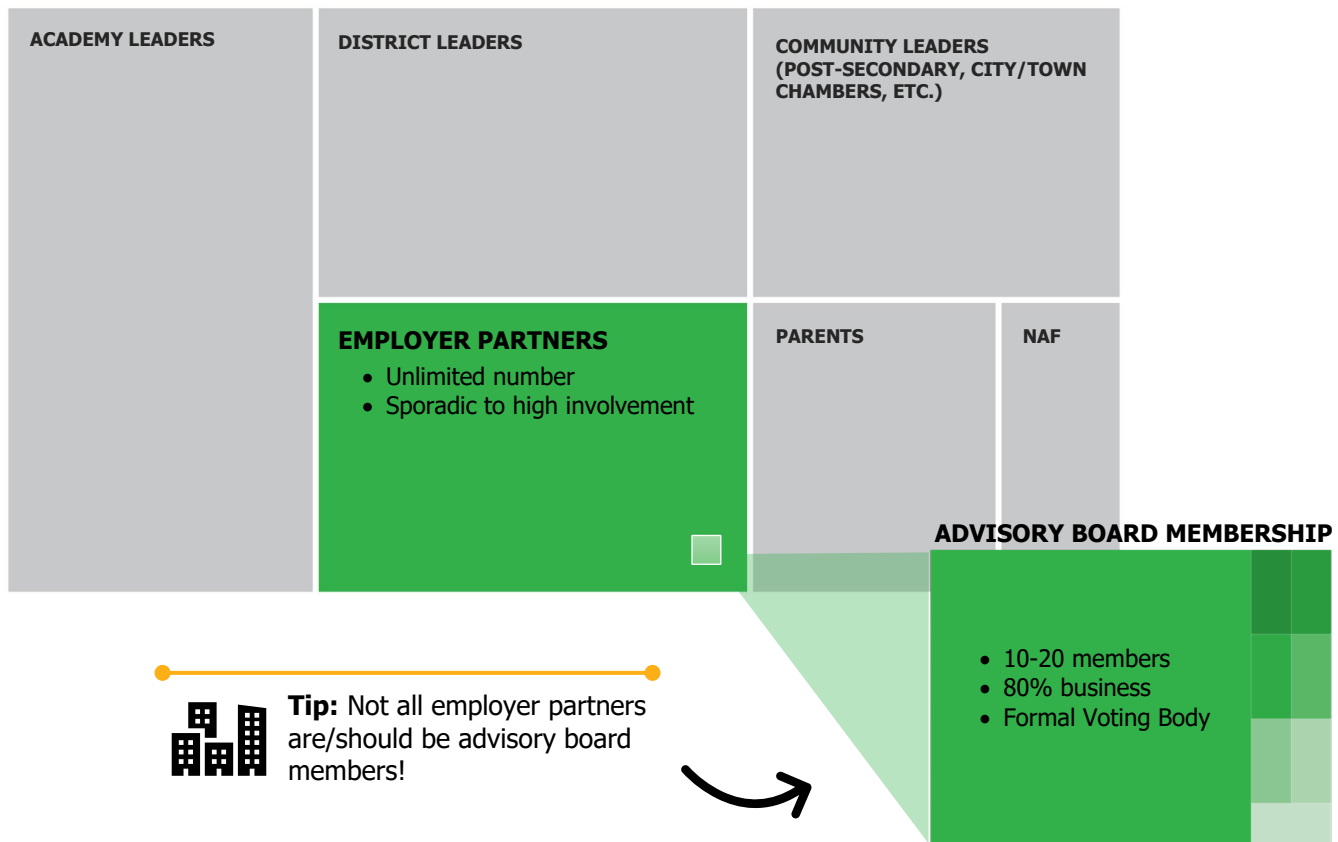
- Employer partners
- Post-secondary education
- Parents
- Students
- Alumni
- Academy leadership
- School and/or district administration.

New research is revealing the most effective boards have between 12 and 16 members based on the number of academies and students served.

NAF recommends 80% of advisory board members are from the business community.

Keep in mind that not all your academy's business partners will serve on the NAF advisory board; rather, a NAF advisory board is a subset of the larger group of business partners.

NAF ACADEMY STAKEHOLDERS



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What should I consider when I recruit members?

As you recruit advisory board members from the academy's existing pool of business partners, remember that advisory board members do not only provide work-based learning experiences, industry expertise and often times financial support; they also generate exponentially more resources by representing the academy in the community. Therefore, think about partners who have demonstrated leadership and an ability to energize and influence other volunteers, students or teachers around a common goal.

We also encourage you to find members who mirror your academy's makeup, so students know that the people making decisions for their education and work-based learning experiences reflect who they are. By embracing diversity, equity and inclusion in your advisory board, your board will flourish with new and creative ideas, and build trust between yourself and the students you serve.

Find your "Champion"

A "Partner Champion" or "Advisory Board Champion" is well-known, trusted and respected in the broader community and can act as a catalyst for your advisory board. Champions often have existing memberships and relationships with the local Chamber of Commerce, Rotary Club or Kiwanis, and they demonstrate a willingness to roll up their sleeves and help leverage their professional and personal networks on behalf of the academy.

Membership Requirements

Some Advisory Boards require that members commit to attending monthly meetings, or providing in-kind services, paid internships, or a certain level of funding each year. All requirements should be clearly outlined in the advisory board by-laws so that all members have a common understanding of the expectations of membership.

Be sure to orient new advisory board members, reviewing all membership requirements prior to their official start with the advisory board.

Membership Diversity

NAF recommends that:

- Advisory board members represent businesses, non-profit and governmental organizations with a connection to the academy [theme](#). Ideally, the advisory board members will represent the various aspects of their respective industry.
- Several members of the advisory board be of executive level so they can leverage corporate and community-wide access to help garner additional support for the academy.
- Advisory board members represent the demographic makeup of the students served by the academy.