



Apex High School
**BE FUTURE
 READY**
 ACADEMY OF
 INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY

Apex High School Academy of Information Technology (AOIT) Quick Facts

- Students apply in eighth grade and must be assigned to Apex High School as their base school.
- Students must be on grade level and **accept AOIT as a four-year commitment.**
- Up to 90 students are accepted into AOIT as freshmen cohort. Currently there are 360 academy students in grades 9-12.
- Students follow a multimedia/web design or programming sequence of IT courses. All students take POIT and Computer Programming 1. . These courses are all Career and Technical Education (CTE) courses and taught by CTE teachers.

Grade	Applications Sequence Each course is a pre-requisite for the next	Programming Sequence Each course is a pre-requisite for the next
9	NAF Principles of IT / MS Office	NAF Principles of IT / MS Office
10	Multimedia/Web Design and Comp. Programming 1	Computer Programming I and II(C#)
11	E-Commerce I (Honors)	SAS Programming (Honors)
12	E-Commerce II (Honors)	AP Computer Science (Java)
	Electives - CET 1 and/or C CET 2, AOIT Visual Arts, Cisco Networking 1 & 2, Speech II	Electives – CET 1 and/or 2, AOIT Visual Art, Cisco Networking 1 & 2, Speech II

- Students in the web sequence learn Microsoft Office, HTML/CSS for web page design, multimedia, as well as Dreamweaver, Photoshop, Flash, and video production and editing.
- Students in programming courses learn VB .NET, C#, SAS, and Java.
- Students take CTE and academic courses in a cohort group. Grade level teams from CTE and academic courses collaborate weekly during common planning.
- Students participate in team building activities based on interdisciplinary projects that include carefully designed field trips and project based learning.
- Students participate in job-shadowing experiences.

- Students develop “soft skills” proficiency and are exposed to numerous professional experiences during their four years in the academy.
- Students write résumés, participate in mock interviews and networking events with the Apex Chamber of Commerce.
- Students complete a college level IT course during their senior year (either AP or articulated).
- Students complete a minimum 135-hour compensated internship that involves the use of technology.
- Students prepare an internship and portfolio presentation based on their internship experience.
- Students meet all NC high school graduation requirements and additionally complete the above components to graduate with AOIT distinction.
- Over 95% of AOIT students attend post-secondary institutions.
- NAF is developing a NAF Academy certification that will be recognized by colleges. NAF graduates may earn college credit for some academy classes and admittance recognition with certification.

FUNDING –

- **CTE** funds **CTE** teachers (six of our **CTE** teachers teach one or more academy classes) and 5 months for the Academy Coordinator.
- **CTE** funds all equipment and software for academy classes. This includes five computer labs with laser printers, LCD projectors, Smartboards and more.
- **CTE** funds substitute teachers and transportation for some field trips.
- **CTE** funds the AOIT membership fee to the National Academy Foundation (NAF).
- **CTE** funds the registration and partial travel expenses (shared with NAF) for the Academy Coordinator and an additional teacher to attend NAF’s Institute for Professional Development each summer.
- **CTE** funds liability insurance for all work-based learning activities.
- AOIT parents created a 501c3 booster group, the Academy Support Team, which funds additional equipment, additional teachers to the NAF Institute and miscellaneous expenses through fundraising and grants.