



## How do people get involved?

- Individuals are referred to NAAN by community partners, such as the Department of Workforce Services and resettlement organizations.
  - NAAN began in September 2009 and works to provide individual assessments for new arriving populations who have received their education and training outside of the U.S.
  - Individual assessments help identify the educational tools and experiences that will enable new community members, particularly those from immigrant and refugee backgrounds, to more effectively access higher education.
- NAAN is continually working to develop new partnerships with higher education institutions and community-based organizations throughout Utah.



### NAAN Contact Information

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UNIVERSITY NEIGHBORHOOD PARTNERS

#### UNP Hartland Partnership Center

1575 W 1700 S, SLC 84104  
 801-213-8550

#### UNP House

1060 S 900 W, SLC 84104  
 801-972-3596

### UNP's Mission & Vision

UNP brings together University of Utah and west side people and resources in reciprocal learning, action and benefit — *a community coming together.*

The University and west side neighborhoods share a vision of a community woven together through partnerships based on mutual empowerment, discovery and learning rooted in diverse life experiences. By addressing systemic barriers to educational success, these collaborative partnerships foster increased access to higher education for community members, a University enriched by its involvement in the community, and an enhanced quality of life for all involved.

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THE UNIVERSITY OF UTAH

## NEW AMERICAN ACADEMIC NETWORK (NAAN)

NAAN works to provide greater access to higher education and employment through campus-community partnerships. Our partners are committed to improving and maintaining partnerships with a focus on access to education and training that will result in professional networks and employment.



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# New American Academic Network

## Partnership Description

NAAN was established by UNP in the fall of 2009 to assist foreign-trained refugees and immigrants in obtaining the assessments, course work, and resources needed to integrate into professional employment in the U.S. Participants hold a wide range of academic and professional credentials from their countries of origin. NAAN connects them with higher education, allowing them to return to school and continue their careers. In addition to gaining academic experience in the U.S., participants also develop valuable professional networks and relationships that build their social capital.

The primary goal of NAAN is to connect individuals from immigrant and refugee backgrounds with higher education, creating pathways for them to return to school and/or employment in their chosen fields. Many new arriving populations resettle with education and training from their countries of origin; however, due to the circumstances that preceded resettlement, many individuals arrive without the necessary credentials to enter higher education or a professional level of employment. NAAN works with them to establish educational and professional credentials recognized in the U.S.

Partners work collaboratively to implement the following goals & services:

- Academic consulting and counseling
- Information and referrals
- Access to education opportunities
- Access to professional information and networks
- Guest speakers and lecturers
- Information on preparatory courses, like GMAT, GRE, LSAT, TOEFL, and USML
- Professional internships
- Educational transcript evaluation
- A network of peers



## The NAAN Steering Committee

The NAAN steering committee is responsible for guiding the partnership and developing relationships and resources that assist with academic services for the NAAN participants. The steering committee is made up of representatives of the University of Utah, the Department of Workforce Services, and the International Rescue Committee.

## NAAN Partners & Collaborators

