

EDUCATION

INNOVATIVE UNIVERSITIES
OUTSTANDING COMMUNITY COLLEGES
AWARD-WINNING K-12

mesa

A STRATEGIC LOCATION FOR INSTITUTIONS OF HIGHER LEARNING

Boasting a population of nearly 500,000, Mesa, Arizona is the 36th largest city in the United States and second largest in the Phoenix-Mesa metro area. Larger than Miami, Minneapolis, Atlanta, and St. Louis, Mesa covers 138 square miles inside a 21-city region with a population of 4.3 million, projected to be 6 million by 2030. Institutions such as Arizona State University, Benedictine University, A.T. Still University, and Mesa Community College have large campuses in Mesa.



The Benedictine University Mesa campus continues to grow. Enrollment has increased to more than 400 students and we have added faculty, staff, and programs to better serve student needs. We celebrated two exciting milestones this past year – the opening of our student housing and graduating our first four-year class. The City of Mesa’s support of revitalizing the Alhambra into student housing for BenU students was key. And now we have proud BenU graduates contributing to the Mesa community in a variety of industries.

MICHAEL S. BROPHY, PH.D., M.F.A.
PRESIDENT
BENEDICTINE UNIVERSITY



Mesa is home to 12 colleges and universities with more than 30,000 students currently enrolled in higher education.

Higher Education: A Targeted Industry of Opportunity

Quality higher education is important to the City of Mesa. A 2014 study from the Federal Reserve Bank of New York states that a person with a bachelor's degree can expect to earn about \$1.2 million more in income from age 22 to 64 than someone with only a high school diploma. As such, increasing educational opportunities and attainment for young adults and adults returning to college is a top priority for the City of Mesa. To achieve this goal, City leadership is committed to expanding higher education institutions and developing quality projects that create high-wage jobs.

World-Class Universities

A.T. STILL UNIVERSITY

Established in 1892, A. T. Still University of Health Sciences (ATSU) began as the nation's first college of osteopathic medicine. ATSU offers doctoral programs in osteopathic medicine and dental medicine at its residential campuses in Kirksville, Missouri, and Mesa, Arizona. Additional residential and distance learning doctoral or master's programs are also offered, including athletic training, audiology, biomedical sciences, health administration, health education, health sciences, kinesiology, occupational therapy, physical therapy, physician assistant studies, and public health. In Mesa, ATSU enrolls more than 1,700 students per year in its Arizona School of Dentistry and Oral Health, Arizona School of Health Sciences, and School of Osteopathic Medicine in Arizona. The University features an innovative virtual anatomy lab offering

standard anatomy practicum, but without actual cadaver dissection. The lab is the first of its kind for any medical school in Arizona and can simulate everything from bones to blood vessels in 3D.

ATSU's Arizona School of Dentistry and Oral Health, the first dental school in Arizona, boasts four public clinics where patients receive quality, affordable dental care including general dentistry services, pediatric services, special care dentistry, and orthodontics.

www.atsu.edu





ARIZONA STATE UNIVERSITY'S POLYTECHNIC CAMPUS

ASU's Polytechnic campus is located on 600 acres adjacent to Phoenix-Mesa Gateway Airport. The Mesa campus is home to more than 80 undergraduate degrees and 20 graduate degrees, most with an applied emphasis, that enroll 4,500+ full-time students from around the world. ASU colleges offering degrees and programs at the campus include the Ira A. Fulton Schools of Engineering; W. P. Carey School of Business; College of Integrative Sciences and Arts; Mary Lou Fulton Teachers College; School of Sustainability; Barrett, the Honors College; and University College. Elementary and high school students also attend school at two ASU Preparatory Academy sites on the campus.

The ASU Polytechnic campus is recognized for innovative partnerships and creative collaborations with industry and other educational institutions. Assets include state-of-the-art infrastructure as well as faculty and students who possess research and innovation capabilities in key areas, with growing expertise at the nexus of solutions related to food, energy and water.

In 2016, ASU unveiled its plan for a new 300-acre innovation zone. A master plan was completed in the summer of 2017, which includes commercial space in an effort to foster business partnerships and entrepreneurship.

A **Clean Room Laboratory** supports a variety of research, such as that related to medicine-to-wafer fabrication tools, integrated electronic systems, and electronic packaging and testing equipment.

The **Bio-Inspired Robotics Labs** support research on developing robotic orthoses and prostheses for stroke rehabilitation and mobility, mobile robot navigation, and wearable robotics to extend human performance.

Physics faculty in the **Computational Optics Group** explore interactions of light with matter at the nanoscale and how molecules and molecular aggregates can be manipulated using laser radiation. The research has exciting implications for many areas of science, medicine, and computing.

Manufacturing Research and Innovation Hub

ASU's Ira A. Fulton Schools of Engineering's Polytechnic School is now home to the largest additive manufacturing research facility in the Southwest United States. The 15,000-square-foot 3D printing research center—known as the **Manufacturing Research and Innovation Hub**—officially launched in January 2017, with support from Honeywell Aerospace and the 3D printing companies Stratasys and Concept Laser (recently bought by GE). The impressive facility has \$2 million worth of plastic, polymer, and metal 3D printing technologies and supports a wide range of research, material and process development, and educational training.

Even before the new additive manufacturing center was established, ASU's Fulton Schools of Engineering have long been recognized for educational and research programs in engineering, manufacturing, robotics, and automation. ASU offers the only four-year manufacturing engineering program in Arizona accredited by the Accreditation Board for Engineering and Technology (ABET), one of only 22 accredited manufacturing engineering programs in the country.

Aerospace / Aviation / Manufacturing Assets

The **Manufacturing Labs in the Simulator Building** empower students to master CNC machine tools, computer-aided design, sheet metal work, casting, metrology, welding, automation, assembly, and machining.

The **Commercial Photography Studio and Technical Imaging Lab** maintain industry-standard equipment and involve students in advertising and observational image capture, including high-speed video and thermal imaging. In the Make Media Lab, students shoot their own videos and photos to support entrepreneurial startups and class projects.

The **Device and Usability Learning Lab** has computers, mobile phones, tablets, and other devices available for website testing and usability research, which allows web design and development to become truly responsive.

The **Engineering Design Studios** house engineering prototyping equipment to support design and fabrication of students' innovative ideas.

The **Flight Simulators and Aviation Labs** support leading-edge preparation for careers in aviation and air-traffic control. The Altitude Chamber facility allows research and training in the physiological effects of oxygen deprivation.

The **Human Systems Engineering Labs** support research on individual and team performance, cognition, and learning in a variety of settings, such as in using medical equipment, educational technologies, robots, and autonomous vehicles. This recently added program seeks to prepare students to consider both the human and technology sides of engineering by combining psychology and technical coursework.

The **STEAM Labs** challenge students to learn and apply the engineering design process to build chain-reaction STEAM machines in a project-based, cooperative learning environment. The program integrates arts and STEM and creates pathways for students to understand careers in engineering.

campus.asu.edu/polytechnic

NORTHERN ARIZONA UNIVERSITY

Northern Arizona University (NAU) has served the Mesa community for more than 30 years, providing residents with access to an affordable, convenient, and high-quality university education. Last year, NAU provided high-quality educational opportunities to over 1,050 Mesa residents at its Flagstaff Campus, two community campuses in Mesa, and through numerous online programs. In a partnership with Mesa Community College (MCC), NAU offers affordable and streamlined bachelor's degree pathways on the campuses of MCC, with some programs accepting up to 90 community college credits.

Generating New Nursing Professionals

In a unique partnership with MCC, NAU created a Concurrent Enrollment Nursing program to help students earn an Associate of Applied Sciences in Nursing and the Bachelor of Science in Nursing at the same time. This streamlined curriculum provides a very affordable, convenient, and quality education to prepare new nurses for positions at local Mesa hospitals. In addition, NAU was just named as one of the top 30 online bachelor's degrees in nursing.

Developing New Teachers and School Leaders

NAU is well-known as a leader in teacher education and is the only university accredited by the National Council for Accreditation of Teacher Education (NCATE). NAU has educated many new teachers and administrators for local Mesa schools through its undergraduate and graduate degree programs.

Through an innovative partnership with MCC, NAU provides a bachelor's degree in Elementary Education with a Bilingual/ESL emphasis, at the MCC Southern and Dobson campus.

NAU also provides graduate degree programs to advance current teachers in their classroom skills, or to prepare teachers for leadership positions at local Mesa schools.

Programs include some of the following options:

- M.Ed. in Educational Leadership
- M.Ed. in Bilingual Multicultural Education
- M.Ed. in Elementary Education
- M.Ed. in Educational Technology

Serving the Public Safety Community

NAU has made a strong commitment to serving public safety officials, or those seeking a career in criminal justice or fire services. Classes are taught by faculty with real world experience in these fields and program options include the following:

- Justice Studies – accepts up to 90 credits in transfer
- Emergency Management – accepts up to 90 credits in transfer
- Master of Administration – emphasizes in Public Management and Justice Studies

Additional Undergraduate Degree Options

NAU has a robust online program making it convenient for working adults to earn their degrees. Programs include: Business Administration; Communication Studies; Justice Studies; Nursing (RN to BSN completion); Psychology; Public Administration; Technology Management; and more.

Personalized Learning

NAU developed a highly innovative learning model, titled Personalized Learning, to help working adults earn a bachelor's degree. This self-paced, online learning format focuses on learning and not time spent on a class. There is one low price for a six-month subscription – no extra fees or book charges. Degree options include: Management (Healthcare emphasis); Management (Human Resources); Small Business Administration; Computer Information Technology; RN to BSN Completion; and Liberal Arts.

ec.nau.edu/AZCampuses/Mesa/



Mesa's Legacy Institutions

BENEDICTINE UNIVERSITY AT MESA

For more than 125 years, Benedictine University (BenU) has provided students a private, faith-based liberal arts education grounded in history, heritage, and Catholic tradition. The Benedictine at Mesa campus is conveniently located in the heart of Downtown Mesa along the light rail line, providing easy access for students across Greater Phoenix.

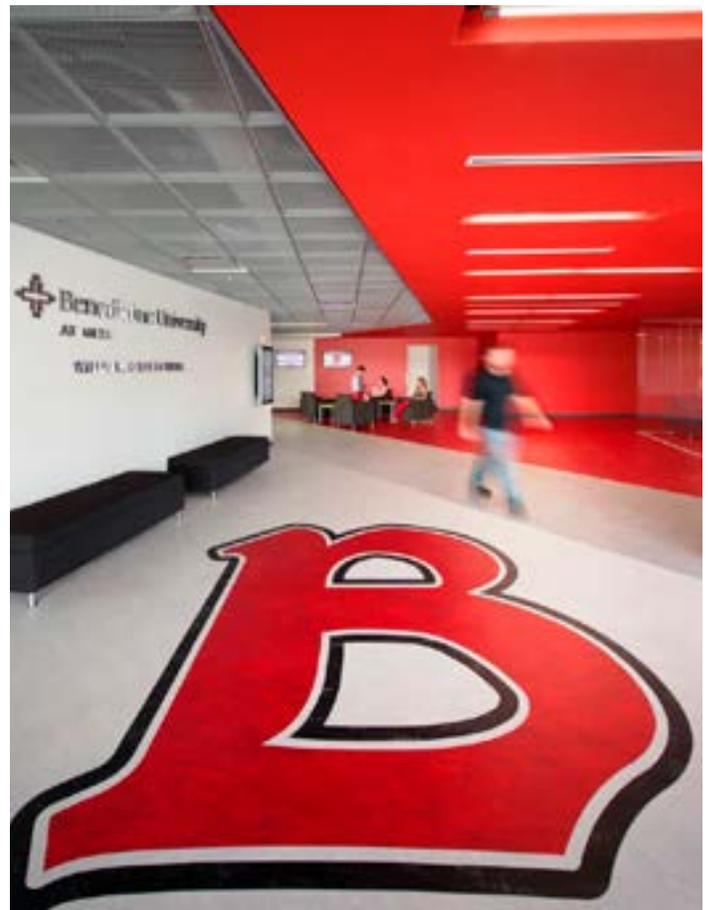
Classes are a mix of lecture-free and a problem/issues-based curriculum focused on application, decision-making and problem-solving. Service learning projects and cooperative education programs supplement classroom experiences. Traditional on-campus undergraduate programs include Accounting, Management and Organizational Behavior, Communication Arts, Computer Science, Criminal Justice, Fine Arts, Graphic Arts and Design, Nutrition, Political Science, Psychology, Spanish, and Theology.

Benedictine also offers accelerated undergraduate programs in Business Administration, Criminal Justice, Accounting, and a popular, all-inclusive \$15,000 MBA program for adult learners.

Benedictine also participates in collegiate sports and offers the following programs for both men and women:

- Baseball/Softball
- Basketball
- Indoor and Beach Volleyball
- Golf
- Cross Country
- Soccer

www.ben.edu/mesa



UPPER IOWA UNIVERSITY

Upper Iowa University (UIU), founded in Fayette, Iowa in 1857, is a traditional, private liberal arts university. UIU has 19 education centers across the United States, as well as locations in Hong Kong and Malaysia. UIU serves approximately 5,400 students worldwide.

The Mesa Center is UIU's 19th U.S. location and is co-located within the East Valley Institute of Technology campus. UIU offers an accredited nursing program to assist registered nurses (RN) get a Bachelor of Science in Nursing (BSN). The UIU RN to BSN program can be taken completely online or in a hybrid format that combines traditional classes with online learning.

www.uiu.edu

WILKES UNIVERSITY

Wilkes University is an independent institution of higher education dedicated to academic and intellectual excellence through mentoring in the liberal arts, sciences, and professional programs.

Wilkes University in Mesa offers undergraduate business degrees in Accounting, Entrepreneurship, Finance, Management, Marketing, and Sports Management. Wilkes offers master's degrees in Business Administration (MBA) and Creative Writing, and a doctoral degree in Educational Leadership.

www.wilkes.edu/mesa

Outstanding Community Colleges and Specialized Training Academies

Mesa Community College and Chandler-Gilbert Community College are two community colleges in Mesa that are part of Maricopa County Community College District, the largest community college district in the country. Mesa is also home to special training academies such as CAE Oxford Aviation Academy.

MESA COMMUNITY COLLEGE

As an educational, economic, cultural, and workforce engine for the East Valley, Mesa Community College (MCC) has contributed to individual and community success for more than half a century. The largest of 10 colleges in the Maricopa County Community College District, MCC delivers an affordable and quality opportunity to earn degrees, certificates, and workforce training for students to advance career goals, as well as transfer to four-year institutions via university partnerships.

Accredited by the Higher Learning Commission, MCC's more than 20,000 students are served annually online and on two campuses – Southern and Dobson and Red Mountain. MCC students enrich the community with nearly 22,000 service-learning volunteer hours each year.

Meeting the needs of the business community, MCC offers Career and Technical Education (CTE) programs that equip students with the knowledge and skills for today's jobs. Partnering with government, business, high-tech, and advanced manufacturing companies, CTE programs are cutting edge, in-demand, and strategically networked with employers.

www.mesacc.edu

CHANDLER-GILBERT COMMUNITY COLLEGE

Founded in 1985, Chandler-Gilbert Community College (CGCC) is a comprehensive community college in Chandler, Arizona. With nearly 20,000 students across four locations including the Williams Campus in Mesa adjacent to the Phoenix-Mesa Gateway Airport, CGCC is one of the fastest-growing Maricopa Community Colleges.

CGCC offers 60 degree programs and certificates in some of today's most in-demand career fields such as aviation, law enforcement, and nursing. Students can complete their studies and head directly into the workforce or transfer to a four-year university. Transfer partnerships with the three state universities as well as with many out-of-state universities make it easy and convenient for students to go to complete their bachelor's degree.

CGCC also offers a variety of alternative delivery courses including dual-enrollment, online and hybrid each semester. Whether they are on campus or online, classes are taught by award-winning, nationally recognized faculty who are focused on ensuring the success of our students.

As one of the 10 Maricopa Community Colleges, CGCC is accredited by the Higher Learning Commission (HLC) and is a member of the North Central Association (NCA).

www.cgc.maricopa.edu

CAE OXFORD AVIATION ACADEMY

CAE is the largest flight training network in the world, training approximately 100,000 crewmembers annually. CAE serves more than 3,400 airlines, aircraft operators, and manufacturers across the globe. One of its eight global flight academies is based at Falcon Field Airport in north Mesa.

www.caeoaa.com

MESA IS ALSO HOME TO THESE PRIVATE, FOR PROFIT COLLEGES AND UNIVERSITIES:

- Arizona College – www.arizonacollege.edu
- Carrington College – www.carrington.edu
- DeVry University – www.devry.edu
- Pima Medical Institute – www.pmi.edu



Mesa Center for Higher Education

The Mesa Center for Higher Education (MCHE), is home to LaunchPoint (Mesa's Technology Accelerator), Benedictine University at Mesa, and Wilkes University, and is located in Downtown Mesa. The 53,000-square-foot building boasts 13 classrooms, six fully-equipped science and engineering labs, offices, conference rooms, and numerous student study and gathering spaces. Approximately 11,000 square feet of space is still available for expansion.

www.MesaCenterForHigherEducation.com

www.LaunchPointMesa.com



Mesa Educates U

Mesa Educates U (MEU) is a cooperative marketing effort to brand Mesa as the premier destination for higher education in the Southwest. The primary component of MEU is to encourage partner schools to provide scholarships to local residents. Since the program's inception in 2012, more than \$3 million in scholarships have been awarded from Mesa higher education institutions.

Benedictine University provides up to a \$10,000 MEU scholarship to Mesa residents who are the first in their family to attend college. Wilkes gives up to \$5,000 in MEU scholarship money to Mesa residents who are transfer students. Upper Iowa University has two \$2,500 MEU scholarships available each year.

Visit www.MesaEducatesU.org for more information.

Mesa Counts on College

Mesa Counts on College is an education partnership between the City of Mesa, Mesa Community College, and Mesa Public Schools with a mission to increase college and career readiness and completion in Mesa. Mesa Counts on College provides services that educate the community on the process for which students can both achieve and obtain post-secondary success.

www.MesaCountsOnCollege.org



AzAMI – Arizona Advanced Manufacturing Institute

AzAMI is a unique center of excellence created to help Arizona business and industry partners stay competitive and to provide a pipeline of skilled, career-educated and ready-to-work employees. AzAMI core programs include:

- Automation Mechatronics and Robotic Technology
- Aerospace Manufacturing Technology
- Precision Machining
- Additive Manufacturing Processes
- Drafting
- Electronics Technology
- Electrical/Mechanical Drafting
- Welding Technology

From enrollment to employment, AzAMI connects workforce opportunities with local and regional businesses, building a technically trained, talent supply chain of motivated and skilled individuals. AzAMI provides industry certifications; stackable credentials that are competency based with degree and certificate programs; flexible models of delivery; and portable labs for on-site training. AzAMI creates a rich menu of innovative and customized services.

www.mesacc.edu/azami



Award-Winning K-12 Schools

The City of Mesa is home to many of the best primary education schools in the state. There are 26 "A" ranked schools in Mesa by the Arizona Department of Education, and 27 "A+" School of Excellence laureates by the Arizona Education Foundation.

Mesa is served by four school districts and the East Valley Institute of Technology (EVIT). Mesa Public Schools serves the largest portion of the City. Gilbert Public Schools, the Higley Unified School District, and the Queen Creek Unified School District each serve a portion of southeast Mesa. These districts tout average ACT and SAT scores that beat both the state and national averages.



MESA PUBLIC SCHOOLS

Mesa Public Schools (MPS) is an award winning district recognized nationally for student achievement in academics, sports, creative and performing arts, and career and technical education. As the

largest school district by student enrollment in Arizona, MPS educates more than 64,000 students in 82 schools and programs. MPS also offers special programs to meet the needs of every learner, including back-to-basics, Montessori, International Baccalaureate, Advanced Placement (AP), and online learning. www.mpsaz.org

GILBERT PUBLIC SCHOOLS

Based in the neighboring Town of Gilbert, Gilbert Public Schools (GPS) has more than 40 schools, 10 of which are located in southeast Mesa. GPS is known for its competitive atmosphere and has received the grade "A" from the Arizona Department of Education. www.gilbertschools.net

HIGLEY UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT

Higley Unified School District (HUSD) covers portions of southeast Mesa, east Gilbert, and north Queen Creek. HUSD has 15 schools and received an "A" rating from the Arizona Department of Education. www.husd.org

QUEEN CREEK UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT

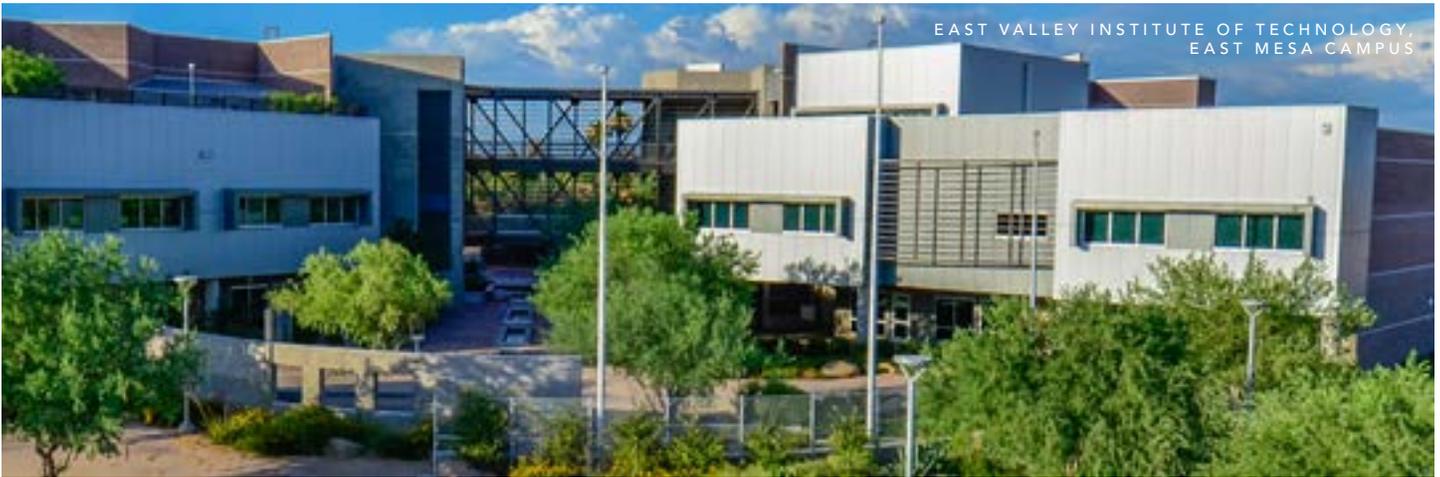
Based in the neighboring town of Queen Creek, Queen Creek Unified School District (QCUSD) also serves students in southeast Mesa. QCUSD is a growing district with approximately 6,000 students and eight schools. QCUSD schools have earned labels from the Department of Education of "Excelling" or "Highly Performing." www.qcusd.org

MESA CHARTER SCHOOLS

Charter schools were authorized by the Arizona Legislature in 1994, and the first charters opened in 1995. Charter schools are public schools that are innovative while still being held accountable for improved student achievement. The schools are funded by the state and free to all Arizona students. They vary in mission and model, serving a wide range of students. The City of Mesa has 48 public charter schools providing students an array of educational choices including college preparatory, STEM, arts, technology, and back-to-basics to name a few.



ARIZONA'S LARGEST SCHOOL DISTRICT,
MESA PUBLIC SCHOOLS HAS MORE THAN
62,000 STUDENTS ENROLLED IN 82
SCHOOLS AND PROGRAMS.



EAST VALLEY INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY

East Valley Institute of Technology (EVIT) is considered a model for high-quality career and technical education by the U.S. Department of Education and has been recognized multiple times as an A+ School of Excellence by the Arizona Educational Foundation. EVIT provides more than 40 advanced career training programs tuition-free to more than 5,000 East Valley high school students and tuition-based to adults, with financial aid available to those who qualify.

High school programs include:

- 3D Animation
- Aesthetics
- Automotive Technologies
- Aviation
- Banking
- Behavior, Mental & Social Health Services
- Cisco Networking Academy & Cyber
- Computer Programming, Coding and Mobile App Design
- Construction Technologies
- Criminal Justice
- Culinary Arts & Commercial Baking
- Digital Device Diagnostic and Repair
- Early Childhood Education & Education Professions
- Emergency Medical Technician
- Fire Science Academy
- Future Engineers
- Graphic Design
- Heating, Ventilation and Air Conditioning
- Human Anatomy & Physiology for Medical Careers
- Multimedia Technologies
- Machining Technology
- Medical Assistant
- Nursing Assistant

- Pharmacy Technician
- Physical Therapy Technician
- Veterinary Assistant
- Video Production
- Web Design
- Welding

Adult education programs include:

- A++ Certification & BICSI Training
- Classic Automotive Restoration
- Collision Repair
- George Brazil School of Plumbing Service & Repair Technician
- Heating, Ventilation and Air Conditioning (HVAC)
- Laser Aesthetics
- Practical Nursing
- Sterile Processing Technician
- Surgical Technology
- Welding

Every EVIT program provides hands-on training and nearly every program prepares students to earn industry certifications and licenses. In Arizona, 78% of students graduate from high school. But at EVIT, 98% graduate, and two out of three go on to college. Nearly 86% of students are in college or other post-secondary training, jobs, or the military within one year of completing their EVIT career training.

EVIT Culinary is the only high school culinary program in Arizona that is nationally accredited by the American Culinary Federation. EVIT Automotive places more students in jobs than any other high school automotive program in the nation. EVIT Welding is a nationally accredited testing site for the American Welding Society. www.evit.com



Empowered to Help Build Your Business

The City of Mesa Office of Economic Development works closely with clients throughout all phases of the development process and looks forward to helping you build and grow your company in Mesa.

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MESA.AZ.GOV/ECONOMIC



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