



**CITY OF MESA
EDUCATION AND WORKFORCE
DEVELOPMENT ROUNDTABLE**

Wednesday, December 7th

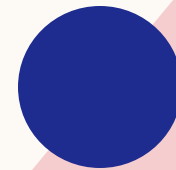
2023 MEETING DATES

March 1, 2023

June 7, 2023

September 6, 2023

December 6, 2023



Collaborative Objective: We share expertise to coordinate goals, amplify resources, track data and advise the City Council on the highest priorities that will strengthen, streamline and align Mesa's education (early learning through post-secondary) and its workforce needs.

Strategic Focus Areas

#1 Early Learning through High School

Priorities

- Equitable access to quality early learning
- Increase graduation rates
- Teacher recruitment & retention
- Clear post-secondary career path for all graduating seniors

#2 Post-Secondary

Priorities

- Graduate workforce-ready students & adults
- Increase post-secondary enrollment through marketing of opportunities
- Help students/families seek technical & financial assistance
- Support Mesa's adults to compete for immediate placement in the workforce

#3 Workforce Development

Priorities

- Affordable & equitable access to upskill, train and educate Mesa's residents
- Improve link between ed pathways & industry needs
- Leverage partnerships, engage residents, business & industry to understand need, provide access & training

Highlighted Performance Metrics

- # of students enrolled in preschool & equitable distribution across programs
- Diversity & equity of early learning staff
- % of on-time HS grad rates
- Drop-out rates for HS serving Mesa families
- Annual averages in Mesa teacher pay/compensation

- Post-secondary enrollment statistics
- Completion percentages in post-secondary degree/certification programs
- Mesa College Promise data
- % of Mesa adults with post-secondary credential

- # of Mesa businesses partnering with HS and post-secondary education
- % of post-secondary grad job placement
- Mesa unemployment rates
- Mesa job demand by industry

Project Summary

Strategic Focus Area	#1 - Early Learning through High School	#2 - Post-Secondary	#3 - Workforce Development
Project	Mesa K-Ready	Mesa College Promise	Workforce Pathway Alignment
Priority Area	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provide equitable access to quality early learning for Mesa families. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ensure all graduating seniors have strong, fundamental education and life skills and have a clear post-secondary career path that aligns passion, professional interest and workforce needs. • Increase post-secondary enrollment in Mesa by marketing the variety of post-secondary opportunities. • Help students/families seek both technical and financial assistance. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provide affordable and equitable access to upskill, train and educate Mesa’s residents (student and adults) to respond to the workforce needs of Mesa’s industry now and in the future.
Status	Community Literacy Task Force		

MESA LITERACY INITIATIVE UPDATE



- Initial meeting: Oct. 27th
- Follow-up meeting: Nov. 15th
- Process



MESA COMMUNITY LITERACY INITIATIVE

- **Mission:** To promote the importance and love of reading through accessible materials and programs that ensure Mesa's multi-generational readiness for school, career and community.
- **Focus areas:**
 - Community Engagement
 - Resource mapping & alignment
 - System building
- **Next steps:**
 - Working groups
 - Strategies

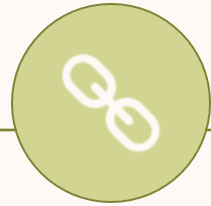
MESA COLLEGE PROMISE PROGRAM



Dr. Andrew Stone – Dean of Enrollment Development

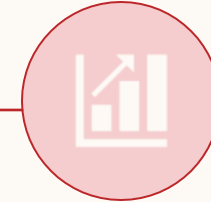
Mrs. Celina Salinas – Director of Strategic Enrollment Development

DISCUSSION OPPORTUNITIES



WHO ARE WE IMPACTING?

- REACH
- TARGET PARTICIPATION



HOW CAN WE INCREASE OUR IMPACT?

- DATA CONNECTION/SHARING
 - FAFSA COMPLETION



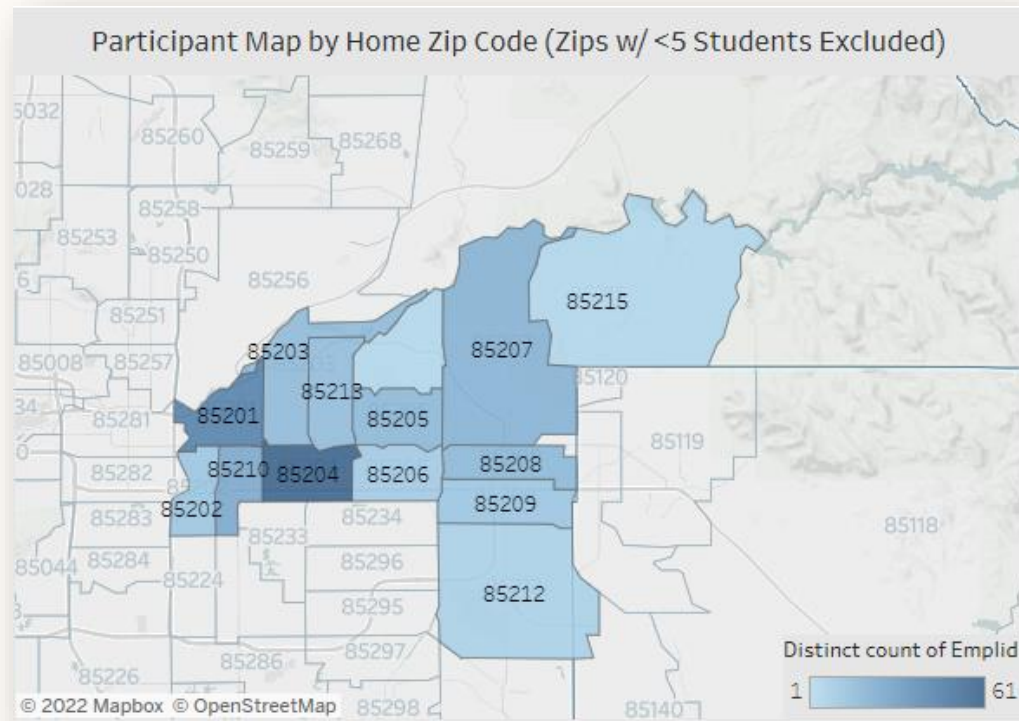
WHO ARE WE REACHING?

Strategic Focus Area 2 Priority Alignment:

- Graduate workforce-ready students & adults.
- Increase post-secondary enrollment through marketing of opportunities.
- Help students/families seek technical & financial assistance.



Mesa College Promise Class of 2021 Cohort:



Mesa Promise Students by High School		
High School District	High School Name	
Mesa Public Schools	Mesa High School	76
	Westwood High School	48
	Mountain View High School	42
	Skyline High School	37
	Red Mountain High School	33
	Dobson High School	19
	Other Public/Charter or Private Districts, Ged or Home School	<5 Students at the School
Charter High Schools	Arete Preparatory Academy Great Hearts	9
Gilbert Unified District	Desert Ridge High School	6

APPLICATION & ENROLLMENT PROCESS

Fall 2022 Applications <small>*(Fall 2021 approx. 200)</small>	
Applied	978
Ineligible	736
Approved	204

Top identified reasons for ineligibility:

- City of residence
- Incomplete or no FAFSA
- No HS Transcript
- HS Graduation Year

College Promise Internal Team Focus Areas:

- Opportunity to auto-award qualified students
- Simplify application process for students
- Minimize # of students ineligible due to application materials

Exploration:

- Automate/streamline data-sharing between high schools and Community College District
- Identify effective existing data partnership/agreement models (state/national)

TARGET POPULATION DISCUSSION: HS DUAL ENROLLMENT STUDENTS

- **Dual Enrollment Opportunities:**

- Mesa Community College:

- All MPS High Schools
- Four Gilbert High Schools (specific programs)
- Higley High School (specific programs)

- Chandler-Gilbert Community College:

- GPS High Schools
- Higley High Schools
- QC High Schools

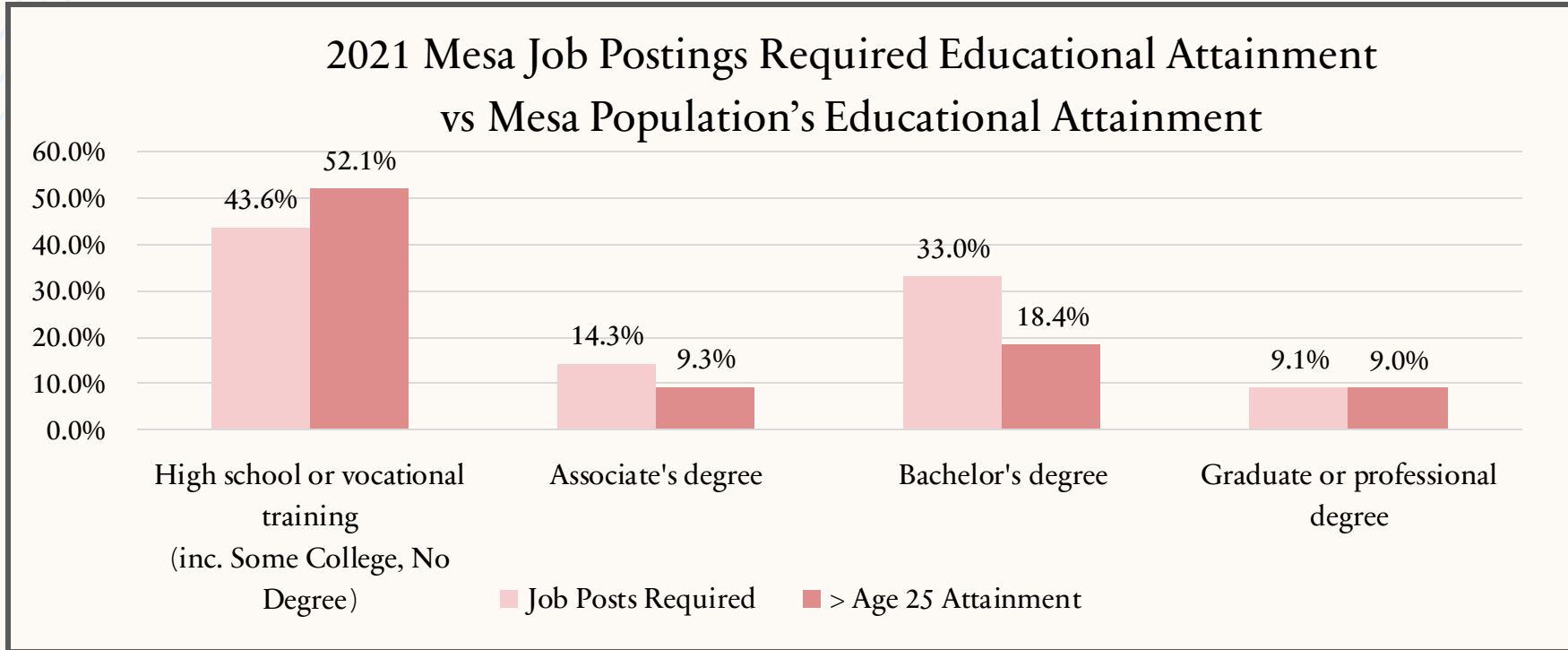
- **DE Maricopa Grant Tuition Assistance:**

- Funds issued on a first-come, first-serve basis
- Demonstration of financial need (indicated if household income falls below 200% of poverty guidelines)
- 12 credit hours per student per year

- **Fall 2022 Dual Enrollment Project:**

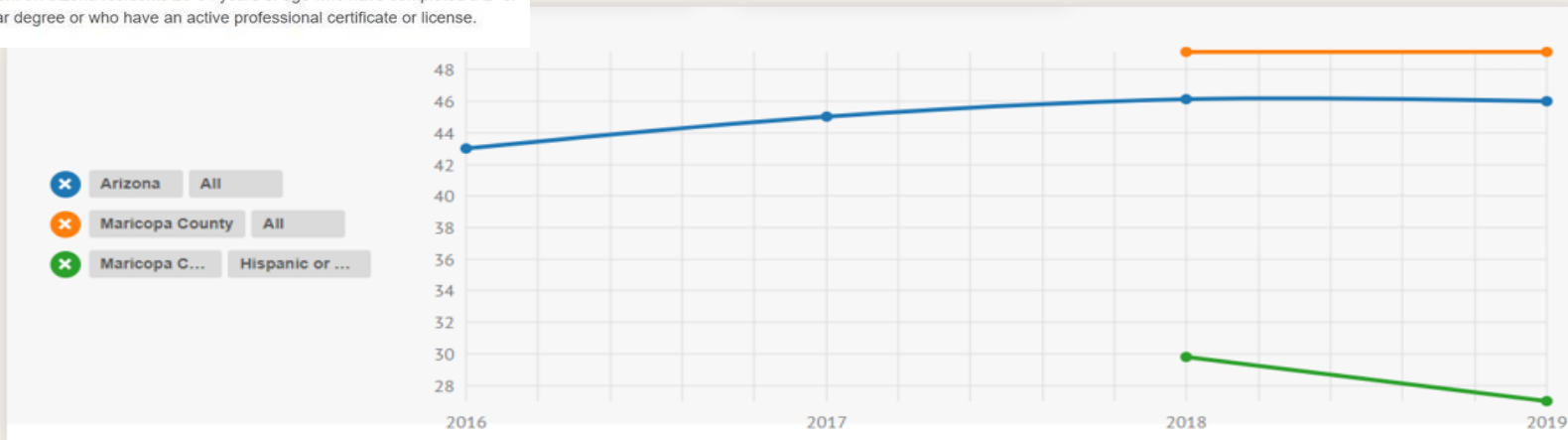
- Grant Partnership – ElevateEdAZ/MPS/PXU
- Resources, strategies and research to grow Dual Enrollment accessibility and impact.

TARGET POPULATION DISCUSSION: SOME COLLEGE, NO DEGREE



ATTAINMENT

Percent of Arizona residents 25-64 years of age who have completed a 2- or 4-year degree or who have an active professional certificate or license.



Source: Education Forward Progress Meter - 2019, 1-Year Public Use Microdata Series Person File for Arizona, from U.S. Census Bureau. Current Population Survey, 2019

	25 and older, Associate's Degree or Higher
City of Mesa	37.5%

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2016-2020 American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates

FAFSA COMPLETION

Strategic Focus Area 2 Priority Alignment:

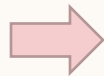
- Increase post-secondary enrollment through marketing of opportunities.
- Help students/families seek technical & financial assistance.

What is it? Free Application for Federal Student Aid.

- It enables students and families to apply for federal student aid, such as grants, work-study, and loans. Together, these types of federal student aid amount to the largest source of financial aid available to help students pay for college. It gives students access to the largest source of financial aid to pay for college or career school.
- Many colleges and programs use FAFSA information to determine eligibility for state and school aid, and some private financial aid providers may FAFSA information to determine whether students qualify for aid.

Why is it important?

FAFSA #s:
State-wide goal: 60%
Mesa: 49% (2021)



According to the National College Access Network, high school seniors who complete the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) are **63 percent more likely to enroll in post-secondary education** than students who do not complete the FAFSA.

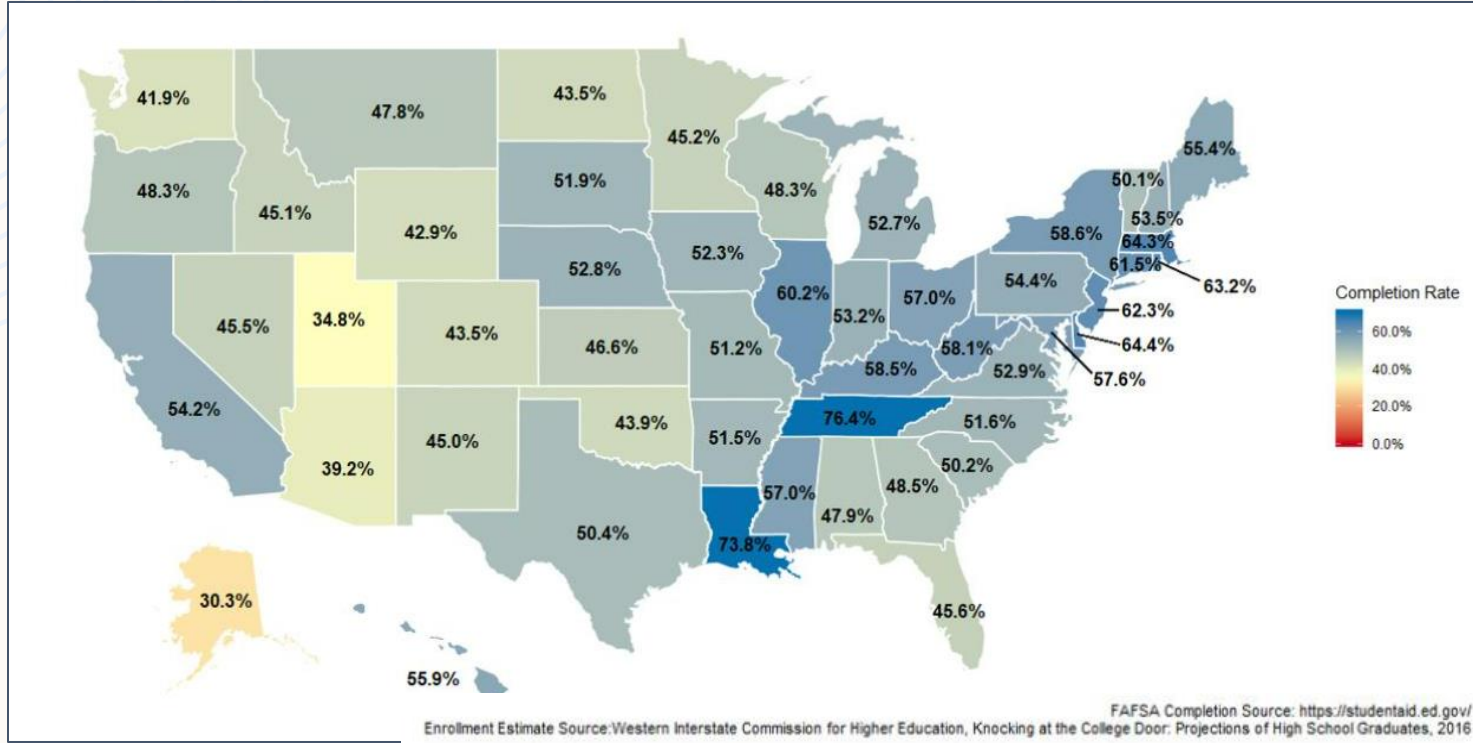


2020 Post-HS Enrollment #s:
Arizona: 46.25%
City of Mesa: 42.63%

Source: Education Forward Progress Meter - 2019, 1-Year Public Use Microdata Series Person File for Arizona, from U.S. Census Bureau. Current Population Survey, 2019

Source: AZ FAFSA Dashboard

2019 (May) FAFSA Completion %



US 2021 FAFSA Completion %

Top 5

TN	71%
LA	68%
DC	67%
IL	66%
RI	63%

Bottom 5

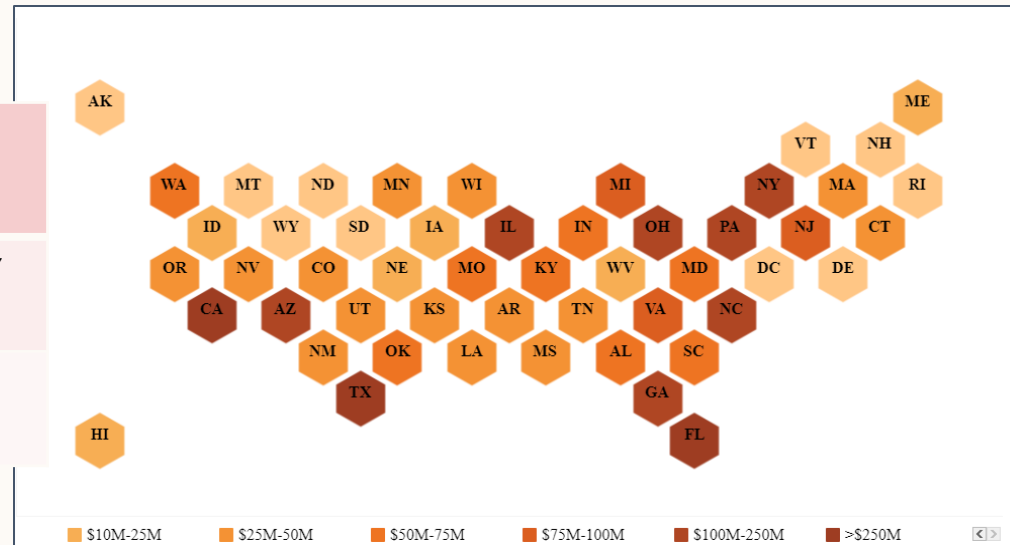
AZ	45%
NM	45%
OK	41%
AK	37%
UT	37%

2021 Pell Grant \$ Left on the Table

AZ \$104,475,997

Nat'l Rank #10

Source: NCAN.org



Source: NCAN.org

STATEWIDE BEST PRACTICES

- State-wide:
 - AZ FAFSA Challenge
 - Real-time completion data updates
 - Student-level data-sharing with school counselors
 - Program initiatives:
 - AdviseAZ
 - Peer/near-peer mentors
 - Ask Benji
 - Embedded college/career advisors
 - Financial aid events
 - FAFSA family nights



NATIONAL BEST PRACTICES

National FAFSA Completion Practices:

- FAFSA Completion Initiative
 - AZ FAFSA Challenge
- Marketing campaigns
 - Consistent outreach and messaging
 - Community-engaged, volunteer training
 - Awareness: early and often
- Community partnerships
- Policy
 - Reform and simplification
 - Universal FAFSA completion
 - Louisiana, Texas, Illinois, Alabama, Colorado, New Hampshire, Maryland, California



Enrollment

FAFSA

Awareness/Target Population

Strategic Focus Area 2: Priority Alignment

- *Increase post-secondary enrollment through marketing of opportunities.*
- *Help students/families seek technical & financial assistance.*

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- *Graduate workforce-ready students & adults.*
- *Increase post-secondary enrollment through marketing of opportunities.*
- *Help students/families seek technical & financial assistance.*

Discussion points

- Automatic award process
- Data sharing models

- National/state/local best practices
- Marketing opportunities
- Community partnerships

- Expanded program access and reach

Opportunity for impact

- Creating a culture of post-secondary enrollment
- Removing barriers for students

- Increasing post-secondary enrollment

- Expanding impact of program



Workforce Center

@ M E S A



Grand opening: Thursday, December 8th

Location & Contact

- **635 E. Broadway Rd. Mesa, AZ 85204**

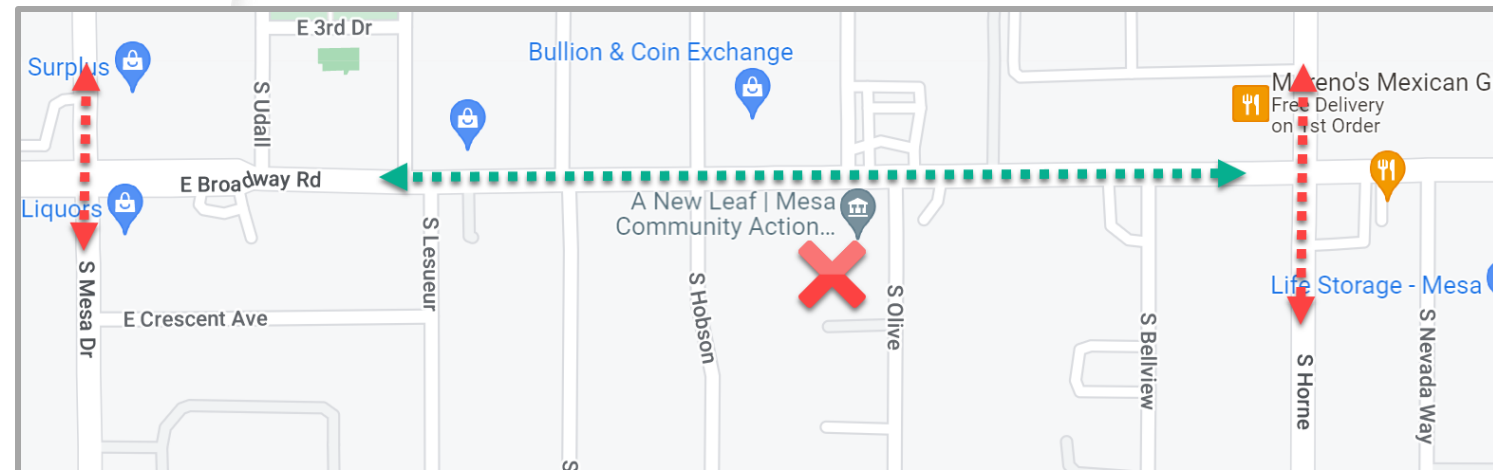
- 2nd Floor of A New Leaf/MesaCAN building

- **Hours of operation:**

- Monday-Thursday: 8 am – 5 pm
- Friday: 8 am - 4:30 pm
- Closed on Weekends and Holidays
- Recommend arriving 1 hour before closing without an appointment

- 480-769-7417

- www.mesaaz.gov/workforcecenter



Who we are

- Partnership
- Provide free workforce services to the local community
- Career Assistance, Business Services and tailored wrap-around support services
- English and Spanish services



MARICOPA COUNTY

A proud partner of the American **JobCenter** network

Serving our Community

- Adults 18 or older
- Citizen or Non-Citizen authorized to work in the U.S.
- Veterans (priority of service)
- Re-entry
- Justice involved
- Individuals experiencing housing insecurity (homeless, domestic violence, shelters)
- Individuals with disabilities
- Local businesses and non-profit organizations



Community Engagement



Workforce Development



Business Services



Partnerships



Wrap-Around Services

Programs and Services

- Develop, refine, and update resume
- Registration on [AZ Job Connection](#), Arizona's largest workforce database
- Career guidance and assessment
- ONET interest profiler
- Customized employment search
- Job seeker workshops and training opportunities
- Interview workshops
- Employment Academy virtual workshops
- BankWork\$ career training program
- Occupational skills training and apprenticeship programs (WIOA)
- Financial wellness coaching and workshops
- Job Club & Hiring Events

GRAND OPENING CELEBRATION

PLEASE JOIN US

The City of Mesa invites you to celebrate the launch of our partnership with A New Leaf Workforce Services and Maricopa County ARIZONA@WORK. The Workforce Center @ Mesa provides workforce services and referrals to wrap around services to our Mesa community. In support of the Council Strategic Priority of a skilled and talented workforce.



Workforce Center

@ M E S A



Thursday, December 8th

Workforce Center @ Mesa

635 E. Broadway Rd. Mesa, AZ 85204 (2nd Floor)

10:30am | Presentations

11:00am | Open House

1:00pm | Public Open House

RSVP | erin.romaine@mesaaz.gov