

Education and Workforce Development Roundtable

Evolving Strategic Framework
Project Recommendations



Strategic Focus Area Project #1: Early Learning through High School

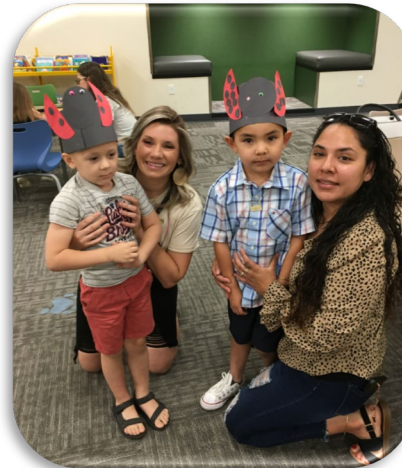
Priority area: Provide equitable access to quality early learning for Mesa families.

- Mesa K-Ready:
 - **Project lead: MPS, with support from Mesa United Way and additional human service and philanthropic agencies.**
 - **Increasing # of parent advocates in program**
 - **Providing equitable access to early learning**
 - Identifying at-risk, high need families to extend outreach
 - Connecting enrolled families to Kinder U/preschool openings
 - **Providing parent support and school readiness for families**



Mesa K-Ready is a FREE program which uses a combination of academic lessons, fun learning activities and family support to help Mesa parents and their 3 and 4-year-olds prepare for kindergarten.

Community Partners:



Pre-K #s:

Age Group	# of Mesa Residents
5 and under	33,666

Licensed Childcare Facilities in Mesa	Total Slots
164	15,424

Mesa K-ready Video

<https://www.mpsaz.org/mkr>

Strategic Focus Area Project #2: Post-Secondary

Priority areas:

- *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.*

- **Mesa College Promise:**

- **Project lead: Mesa Community College, with support from East Valley secondary educational institutions and the Mayor's office for support and fundraising.**
- **Increasing access and participation:**
 - **Connecting to Dual Enrollment Opportunities**
 - Marketing variety of post-secondary opportunities
- **Ensuring long-term sustainability of impact and program**

Mesa College Promise



2-years tuition and fees covered at MCC

Mesa College Promise is a commitment to Mesa residents that all eligible graduating Mesa high school students can attend Mesa Community College for two years with tuition and fees fully funded.

Financial support to those who have not received enough Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) funds or other scholarships to completely cover the cost of college.

FAFSA + Scholarships + Mesa College Promise
= Fully Funded @ MCC

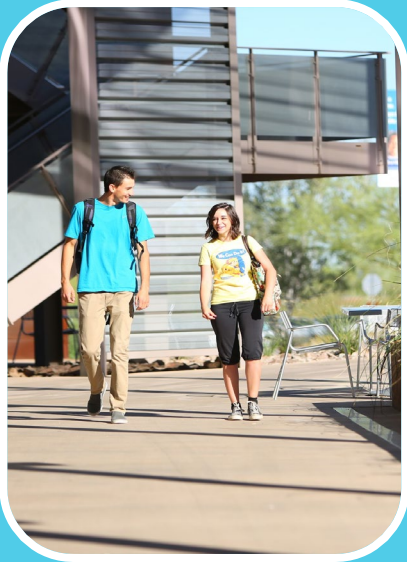




Who is Eligible?

- ✓ City of Mesa Resident
- ✓ High School Graduate- May 2022
 - From public, private, charter, GED program, or home school
 - 2.0+ cumulative high school GPA
- ✓ Demonstrate Financial Need
 - Based on FAFSA completion
- ✓ Enroll at Mesa Community College
 - Begin semester after high school/ Fall 2022
 - Full time 12 or more credit hours
 - Degree or certificate seeking student

Program Benefits



- ✓ Added College Funds
 - Financial support to help with tuition and fees for 2 years
- ✓ Assigned Academic Advisor
 - Advisor to provide academic and personal support
- ✓ Program Resources for Students
 - Access to tutoring, counseling, parking, transportation discounts, food pantry, etc.
 - Volunteer and internship opportunities in Mesa businesses
 - iPad loan program for 2 years
 - Workforce Development services and opportunities

Mesa College Promise #s

- Original goal: 250 students/year
- 60-70 currently enrolled participants
- May 15th Deadline: 325 approved applications for 21/22 grads

Mesa College Promise Video

<https://f.io/9UQXWiY2>

Strategic Focus Area Project #3: Workforce Development

Priority areas:

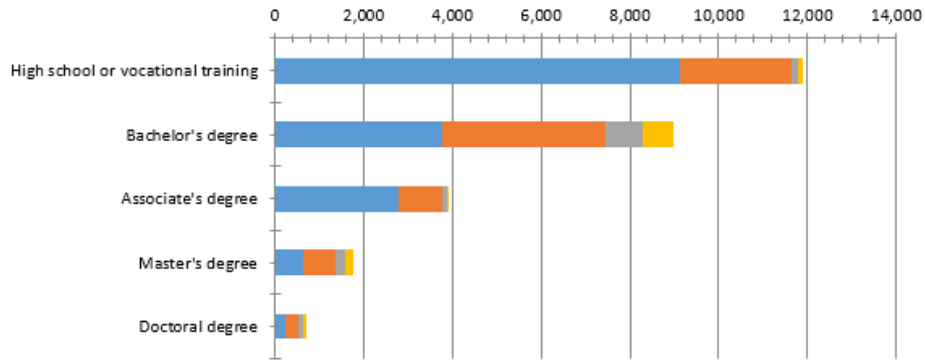
- *Provide affordable and equitable access to upskill, train and educate Mesa's residents (student and adults) to respond to the workforce needs of Mesa's industry now and in the future.*
- *Improve the link between a student's education pathway and workforce industry needs.*

● **Workforce Pathway Alignment**

- Integration with and connection to Mesa Workforce Center
- Upscaling skills
- Equitable access
- Job training and retention
- Data-informed focus
- Connecting students through internships/apprenticeships

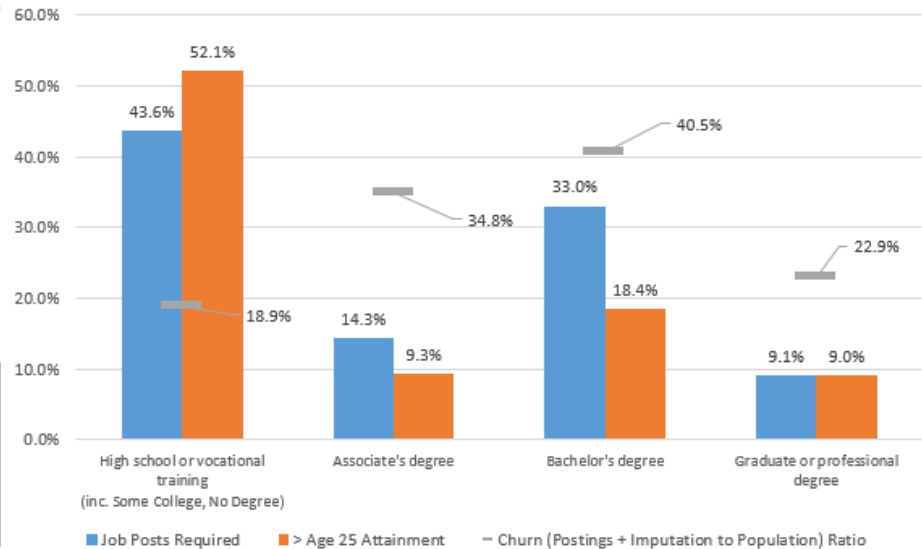
Identifying And Mitigating The Skills Gap In Hiring

2021 Job Posting Required Educational Attainment & Experience



	Doctoral degree	Master's degree	Associate's degree	Bachelor's degree	High school or vocational training
■ 0 to 2 years of experience	218	624	2,797	3,753	9,140
■ 3 to 5 years of experience	305	727	985	3,707	2,507
■ 6 to 8 years of experience	105	217	81	829	147
■ 9+ years of experience	70	204	40	712	103

Job Postings Required Attainment vs Population



There is an oversupply of qualified workers in jobs requiring high school diplomas and an undersupply at associate's and bachelor's degree attainment levels with a parity in supply and demand at advanced degree levels.

Post-HS/Workforce #s:

Age Range	Residents without a HS diploma**
18 and over	41,000
18-34	13,587 (11%)
18-24	6469 (14%)

Age Range	Maricopa County residents who completed 2/4 year certificate (or active license)
25-64	49.1%*

- 119,148 openings listed for Mesa (4/26 - Indeed.com)
- Mesa Job Posting Data available by Job Title, Occupation and Employer

*Updated 2019

**Updated 2020

Questions?

- Next steps