



MEMBER MONTHLY

Member Benefits & AzCAN Updates



Webinar: How You Can Make a Difference on Big Education Issues

The biggest education issues facing our schools and students often require systemwide changes. Systemic changes can take a while and require a lot of broad support. But once accomplished, the impact can be vast and lasting. Every change starts with small actions that each of us can take in support of students, teachers and education as a whole.

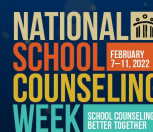
Join us on Feb. 16 at 10 a.m. to learn more about the power you have to impact education policy, how to use it, and ways to get engaged. From voting to contacting policymakers, you will walk away with easy things you can do right now to be an advocate for all students in Arizona. Additionally, you will gain insight into the big topics in education during the 2022 legislative session and beyond.

[Sign up here.](#)

National Counseling Week

In honor of National Counseling Week, the Arizona College Access Network would like to thank all of Arizona's amazing and dedicated counselors for the life changing work they do every single day. Thank you for all you do to support our students!

THANK YOU, SCHOOL COUNSELORS,
FOR HELPING ALL STUDENTS SUCCEED



Pell Dollars

LEFT ON THE TABLE

How many Pell Grant dollars went unclaimed in your state?



NCAN Report: \$3.75 Billion in Pell Grants Goes Unclaimed for High School Class of 2021

Financial aid makes education after high school more affordable – but first, students have to apply for this funding. And for a variety of reasons, that does not always happen.

The high school class of 2021 left an estimated \$3.75 billion in Pell Grants on the table by not completing the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA), according to a new National College Attainment Network (NCAN) analysis.

In Arizona, the high school class of 2021 left \$104,475,997 of funding unclaimed. Read the whole [NCAN report here](#) and learn how Ask Benji is making it easier for students to complete the FAFSA [here](#).

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

Registration is open for most 2022 College Access Professional Development Trainings!

Our CAP trainings will help college access professionals develop an understanding of their role in developing a college-going mission for all students, particularly students in poverty or facing other barriers in postsecondary planning. Registration is now open for the modules below at no cost to you.

College and Career Planning in the Middle Grades

Feb. 28 - April 15

This course focuses on early career awareness and planning, developing successful social-emotional skills, transitions into middle and high school and academic engagement.

[Register today.](#)

Building a College-Going Culture for All Students

April 4 - May 9

This course is designed to help school staff collect and analyze relevant data and transform their programs and services in order to improve the postsecondary success of their students.

[Register today.](#)

College, Career & Academic Planning

May 23 - June 7

This course is designed to help elementary school counselors build their knowledge and skills in several areas, including how to create a college-going culture, communicate the value and affordability of postsecondary education, increase student career exploration, use data to support success and help students develop "non-cognitive" skills.

[Register today.](#)

College and Career Advising for Non-school Counselors

March 7 - April 11

This course is designed for college access advisers, teachers, after-school staff, etc. It teaches professional approaches and provides resources for advising students in planning, applying, paying for and succeeding in education after high school.

[Register today.](#)

College and Career Advising for Special Populations

April 25 - June 3

This course helps counselors develop the skills and knowledge required to help homeless and foster-care students, students with disabilities, immigrant and refugee students, and LGBTQ students with applying, financing and transitioning into education after high school.

[Register today.](#)

UPCOMING EVENTS

The Rural College Access and Success Summit

One of the few national convenings to focus on rural America, the Summit brings together teachers, principals, superintendents, higher education leaders, legislators, and nonprofit leaders to share ideas and strategies for ensuring that rural youth have the opportunity to successfully transition from high school to college and career.

It will feature keynote speakers Geoff Canada, founder of the Harlem Children's Zone, and Jimmy Wayne, a former foster kid turned award-winning country recording artist. **This event will be held from April 24 - 26, 2022.**



Save the Date!



[Register today!](#)

STUDENT OPPORTUNITIES



The Education Forward Arizona Scholarship is open!

Since 2005, Education Forward Arizona has worked with students enrolled in postsecondary education across the state of Arizona to provide support services that empower them to persist and thrive through college and beyond.

The 2022/2023 Education Forward Arizona Scholarship Application will be due on **March 4, 2022** and the new cohort of Ed Forward AZ Scholars will be announced in May.

Scholarship Awards

- Student may be eligible to receive up to \$6,000 per year (\$2,000 - \$3,000 per semester) for 4 years
- Intended for students planning to obtain a bachelor's degree within 4 years (Community college for the first 2 years is an option)
- Mentoring and Success Services are included

Eligibility

- Be an active member of, and recommended by, one of our [College Access Partner Organizations](#)
- Demonstrate high potential and motivation to succeed in college
- Have a 3.0 Weighted Cumulative GPA
- Be a graduate of an Arizona high school and entering a college or a university as a first-time enrollee
- Meet the criteria to receive Federal Student Aid, be Pell Grant eligible and able to demonstrate significant financial need as reported on the FAFSA
- DACA recipients are also eligible

[Apply today.](#)

VIRTUAL TEEN CAREER CONFERENCE with the PHOENIX ZOO



Virtual Teen Career Conference with the Phoenix Zoo

The Phoenix Zoo is excited to give teens an opportunity to explore many different careers in animal science during their **free** virtual [Teen Career Conference](#) once on **March 26** from 9 a.m. - 2:30 p.m.

Through specially selected speaker panels, attendees will hear from experts in zoology, conservation, animal husbandry and veterinary care working both within the zoo and in the field. The speakers will offer insights into their career paths and advice on breaking into their respective fields.

Representatives from the zoo and other scientific and educational institutions from around the Valley will be on hand to offer information about their programs and opportunities for teens to begin working toward their careers right now. Volunteer opportunities, camps and other programs will also be highlighted.

Also included this year are two professional skill-building workshops designed to offer participants an opportunity to begin building skills that will benefit their professional knowledge and personal growth.

[Register today.](#)

JOB OPENINGS



Education Forward Arizona is currently hiring a [Community Impact Manager in Northern Arizona](#).

ASU GEAR UP is currently hiring two Educational Outreach Specialists to work with GEAR UP students at:

- [Glendale High School](#)



[EducationForwardArizona.org](https://www.educationforwardarizona.org)

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4747 N. 32nd Street, Suite 150, Phoenix, AZ, Arizona, 85018 United States

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