



MEMBER MONTHLY

Member Benefits & AzCAN Updates



How Ask Benji is helping more than 100 high schools meet their FAFSA goal

With the current academic year coming to an end, the Ask Benji team is already preparing to start supporting next year's seniors with filling out their Free Application for Federal Aid form (FAFSA) and helping schools boost their FAFSA rates.

Benji is an artificial intelligence-powered chatbot that provides 24/7 assistance to students completing the FAFSA.

Implementing Ask Benji will give your school extra support for FAFSA completion by providing students and families with immediate, expert assistance on the FAFSA and financial aid process—and it's free for students and schools!

"We would definitely recommend Ask Benji for any district," said Dr. Michael B. Garcia, director of opportunity & achievement at Mesa Public School. "School districts really have nothing to lose with Ask Benji. It is a service that benefits a district's college, career and community readiness efforts, especially when it comes to FAFSA completion. It's also easy to implement and for students to use."

[Learn more.](#)

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, Career & Academic Planning

May 23 - June 7

This course focuses on engaging students in career awareness and development, linking careers to postsecondary planning, using data to address equity in postsecondary opportunities and finding the right postsecondary fit.

[Register today.](#)

Financial Aid and College Applications

June 6 - July 15

This course includes four sessions that increase the counselor's knowledge of financial aid and college applications. The topics including assisting students with the college application process, preparing students for college admission tests, guiding students through the complexities of financial aid and helping students with the financial aid process.

[Register today.](#)

ADVISEAZ OPPORTUNITIES





AdviseAZ, an AmeriCorps program that places trained, near-peer college advisers in high schools and communities is currently recruiting for the 2022-2023 school year.

College Students Wanted

College students, including incoming freshmen, and recent college graduates are wanted to serve as near-peer advisers to high school students. Students can receive a bimonthly living stipend and up to \$2,474 to pay for college. [Learn more.](#)

Schools and Sites Wanted

Need help with college advising? AdviseAZ is seeking eligible schools to host a free near-peer college adviser. [Learn more.](#)

UPCOMING EVENTS

Summer Sessions

Every summer, College Depot offers **FREE**, fun-filled programs designed to help students plan for college. This year's Summer Sessions lineup will take place **June through August**.

Sessions are open to all students and their parents/guardians. Individuals can pick and choose the best sessions for themselves or can attend them all!

All sessions will be hosted both in-person and virtually. To register or learn more, [click here](#).



COLLEGE depot
summer bridge

A free, 6 week summer program for rising college freshmen

JUNE 1 THRU JULY 16

Class of '22 Register for one-on-one support with final summer steps to successfully start college this fall.

REGISTER HERE

PhoenixPublicLibrary tiny.cc/CDbridge

- ☐ Register for classes
- ☐ Meet with college adviser
- ☐ Explore financial aid
- ☐ Settle housing plans
- ☐ Sign up for orientation

Summer Bridge

This summer College Depot is inviting graduating high school seniors to participate in its **FREE** Summer Bridge Program, which aims to make sure students have the support needed for finishing the final steps to successfully start college in the fall.

This new, hands-on six week program will provide the high school class of 2022 with one-on-one advising from **June 1 to July 16**.

Class of 2022 students can [register here](#).

Collegepalooza

Designed by college students for rising college freshmen, this workshop will provide high school graduates from the Class of 2022 with tips, hacks and strategies to have a successful freshmen.

Students will also get a crash course on college life as well as learn how to create a budget and use study apps and organizational techniques to succeed.

Collegepalooza is **FREE** and will take place either in-person or virtually on **Saturday, July 16 from 10-11:30 a.m.** [Register here.](#)

College Palooza

A FREE College Readiness Workshop for
COLLEGE FRESHMEN
Entering College in Fall 2022

10-11:30a.m. Saturday, July 16

To register, call 602.261.8847 or visit <https://tiny.cc/collegepalooza>

PhoenixPublicLibrary

NCAN UPDATES





Help Seniors 'FINISH Strong' Using NCAN's Guide for CBOs

By: Colette Haley, National College Attainment Network

The “**FINISH Strong**” [guide](#) is a compilation of NCAN resources to help inform and support community-based college access and success organizations (CBOs) as they inspire students to complete the enrollment process and attend college in the fall.

NCAN has divided the guide into six practice areas:

- **F**: FAFSA completion effort.
- **I**: Innovate using technology.
- **N**: National Student Clearinghouse data as a tool.
- **I**: Involve parents and peers.
- **S**: Strategies to decrease summer melt.
- **H**: Hope and help to connect to resources.

[Learn more and explore the 'FINISH Strong' Guide here.](#)

JOB OPENINGS



If you want to be part of making significant changes that benefit all Arizona students, then Education Forward Arizona is the place to do it. A career here is one that gives back every day. It's a place where you can watch your passion for education and Arizona's future grow and make a real impact for all students. We are currently hiring the following positions:

- [AdviseAZ Outreach Specialist](#)
- [Community Impact Manager, Northern Arizona](#)
- [Success Adviser](#)

Other Job Opportunities:

- [Assistant Director \(Management Assistant I\)](#) at College Depot
- [Program Manager](#) at STEP: Student Expedition Program



EducationForwardArizona.org

This email was sent by: Education Forward Arizona
4747 N. 32nd Street, Suite 150, Phoenix, AZ, Arizona, 85018 United States

[Privacy Policy](#)

[Update Profile](#)

[Manage Subscriptions](#)

[Unsubscribe](#)