Education Leaders

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- ADE Dual Enrollment Opportunities
- AzCAN CAP Courses
- Statewide College Resource Centers
- Cox Charities FAFSA Campaign
- Arizona FAFSA Challenge
- Ask Benji / 1-833 Hotlines
- AdviseAZ, an AmeriCorps program
Arizona Department of Education: Office of Indian Education & Post-Secondary Support

ADE’s Post-Secondary & Community Engagement Role

- Director of Post-Secondary & Community Engagement
- Wear two hats
  - Align ADE with post-secondary institutions & systems (our K12 inputs are post-secondary’s 13-20 inputs)
  - Bridge relationships, partnerships, and collaborations within the K12 system and community to assist with our ESSER I, II, & III funds

Services/Support Provided

- Monthly Counselor Office Hours
- Academic Standards & Counselor Monthly Newsletter
- Technical Assistance Webinars
- ECAP Assistance (My Future AZ platform)
- Free CAP Courses provided by ADE to the field
ADE Office of Indian Education Dual Enrollment

Overview of OIE Dual Enrollment Program

The Tribal College Dual Enrollment Program provides thousands of Arizona’s Native American high school students the opportunity to take college courses for both high school and college credit.

- Funds are provided so that tribal colleges can be reimbursed for credit hours taken by high school students. (This is free to the LEA & student/family)
- Participating Tribal Colleges Include:
  - Dina College
  - Navajo Technical University
  - Tohono O’Odham Community College

Eligibility for Course Credit

- Students may enroll year-round
- No annual limit to number of credits earned
- The college course must be at 100-level or higher to qualify for reimbursement
CAP Training (College Access Professional Training)

Thanks to partnerships with Arizona GEAR UP and the ADE, CAP classes are currently FREE. This is a brand-new opportunity with limited tickets so register today!

- **October 4 – November 5, 2021**
  ADE: Financial Aid and College Applications (CORE)

- **November 15 – December 17, 2021**
  ADE: College, Career, and Academic Planning (CORE)

- More classes starting January 2022
Statewide College Access Support

- College Depot
  - Website
- Tempe College Connect
  - Website
- Be A Leader Foundation
  - Website
- Northern Arizona College Resource Center
  - Website
- Regional College Access Center
  - Website
Cox Charities

Arizona FAFSA Coalition

- Statewide FAFSA Awareness Campaign
- Various Media outlets: TV, Radio, Print, Social Media
- Targeted outreach
- Will run the full academic year (2021-2022)

(More AZ FAFSA Coalition Partners to be added this year)

www.azfafsa.org
Arizona FAFSA Challenge

The Arizona FAF$A Challenge is a statewide initiative that aims to increase FAFSA completion rates for the state while promoting friendly competition among Arizona high schools.

Program created in 2018

The Governor’s Office of Education
Workforce Innovation Opportunity Grant
Goals

- Improving Arizona’s FAFSA Completion Efforts
- Creation of a Statewide FAFSA Coalition
- Collaboratively creating FREE FAFSA resources for AZ students and families
- Highlighting high school, counselors, and students for their FAFSA completion efforts.
- Establishing a state FAFSA completion goal

Long-Term Goal: To reach a 78% FAFSA Completion Rate Among Arizona High School Seniors by 2030

Current State Goal to reach a 52% FAFSA Completion Rate Among Arizona High School Seniors
FAFSA Finish Line Data

- Student-Level Data
- Provides detailed FAFSA completion Information
  - Complete
  - Incomplete
  - Verification
  - Missing Signatures
    - student and/or parent
- Schools/Districts must have a data sharing agreement on file to access the data
  - Valid for 5 years
- Student and high school specific data
Trainings

- Before the FAFSA
- FAFSA 101
- FAFSA 201
- After the FAFSA
- FAFSA Finish Line Data

All webinar recordings and resources are available at:
https://fafsachallenge.az.gov/fafsa-toolkit/bootcamp
Arizona’s Digital FAFSA Assistant

- Completely virtual FAFSA assistance, confidential and secure
- Robust “knowledge base” of FAFSA and Financial Aid topics, Arizona-specific content, sensitive mental health responses, etc
- Team of experts managing the bot, Benji’s brain is constantly updated with new understandings

I’m Benji, your digital FAFSA assistant.

Just text 602.786.8171

Ask Benji
Power of the FAFSA
Leveraging Nudging Technology

The best place to do the FAFSA is online at [fafsa.gov](http://fafsa.gov) (the official website).

Federal Student Aid

The FAFSA opens each October 1 for the next school year. Fill out a FAFSA that matches the academic year you'll need financial aid. For example, if you'll be a college freshman starting fall 2021, you'll file a 2021-22 FAFSA to receive financial aid for your first year of college.

Hi Heidi! I'm Benji, a chatbot working w/Tucson Unified to help you with college financial aid steps & tips on how to fill out the FAFSA.

Save me in your contacts so you know it’s me. You’ll be getting texts from me to get ready for the FAFSA. 🤖


Federal Student Aid


Ask me questions about the FAFSA and financial aid- 24/7! 🌟 I do best with shorter questions. MSG+Data rates may apply. Text STOP to opt out.
Chatbot Growth & Expansion

● October 2019: Mesa Public Schools pilot
● **2020-2021: 35 signed agreements**
  ○ 127 High Schools
  ○ Representing half of Arizona seniors
● Ten of 15 counties in Arizona
● 37,000+ Benji users
  ○ Students, Parents, Educators
● 2.2.+ million messages sent/received
● 678 topics in Knowledge Base
● Less than 10% opt out rate

● [www.AskBenji.org](http://www.AskBenji.org) and [@BenjiFAFSA](https://twitter.com/BenjiFAFSA)
WHAT WE OFFER TO STUDENTS

1:1 Virtual Meetings - assist with college application processes and career exploration and provide near-peer support.

College Awareness - help facilitate campus visits, tours and college fairs.

FASFA Help - assist students in applying for federal aid and facilitate understanding between the different types of aid.

College Applications - assist students in the application process by helping them create lists for “safety, match and reach” schools.

SAT/ACT - ensure students are prepared for SAT/ACT to maximize test scores.

Transitions - help students transition from high school to post-secondary education.
HOW TO CONTACT US

Our Website:
http://www.adviseaz.org

Our Email:
collegesupport@collegesuccessarizona.org
Contact Information

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