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**U.S. Department of  
Veterans Affairs**

## Partner Sponsor





# 2024

## Statewide Symposium in Support of Service Members, Veterans & Their Families

April 17-18 | Phoenix, Arizona

arizona coalition  
for military families





# Education

## Session 1

Creating Supportive  
Environments for Veterans in  
Higher Education



# Facilitators



**Nicole Williams**

CAREER SPECIALIST

Arizona Coalition for Military Families



**Andrea Singaas**

SPECIAL PROJECTS CONSULTANT

Arizona Coalition for Military Families



**MARICOPA**  
COMMUNITY COLLEGES

**Andrea Banks**

DIRECTOR OF STUDENT AFFAIRS

Maricopa Community Colleges





# Welcome

Andrea Banks

Maricopa Community Colleges



# Agenda

1

**Introductions**

3

**College Program Highlights**

2

**Veteran Center Highlights**

4

**Panel Discussion**



# Veteran Center Highlights

Pete Yanka

Director of Veteran and Military Services

Northern Arizona University





## NAU and Veteran and Military Services: A commitment to enhancing the Student Experience

- ACCESS Awareness of educational opportunities
- PERSONAL AND COMPETENT CONNECTION Focus on hiring top notch staff
- REMOVING BARRIERS Building out back of house processes critical to the student experience/Lowering costs





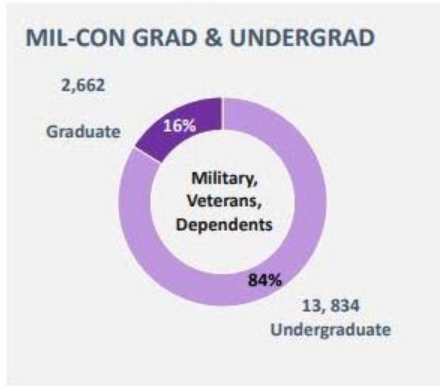
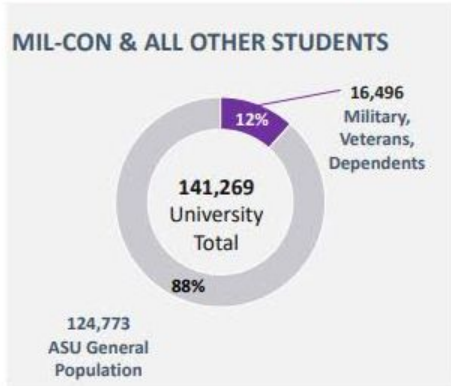
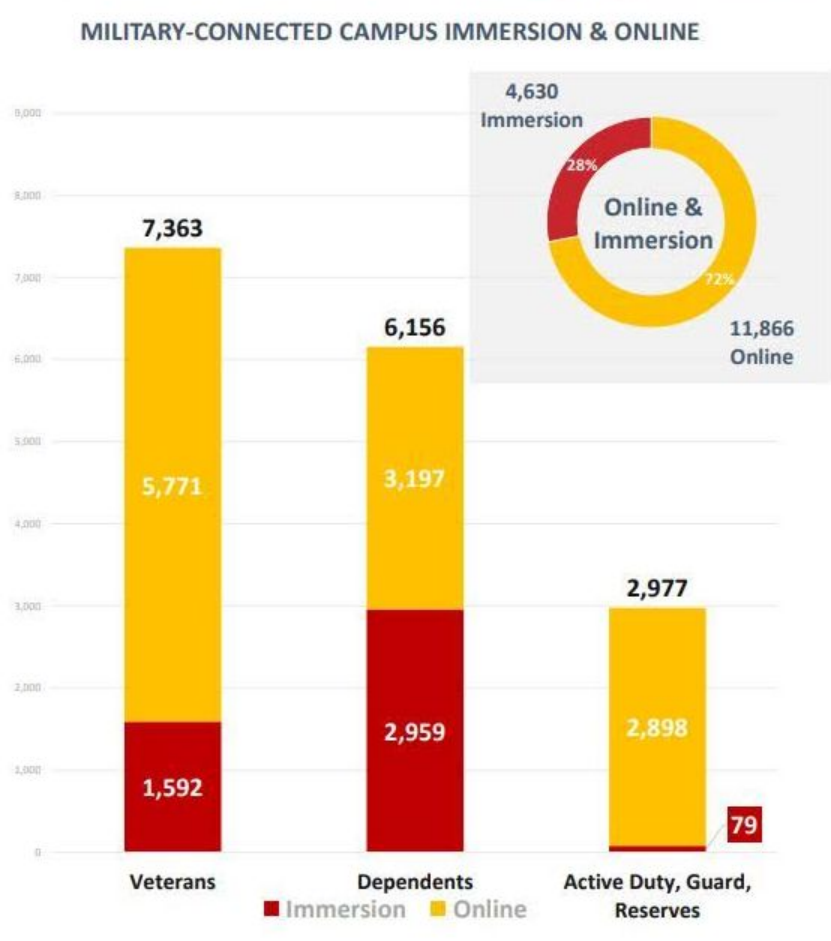
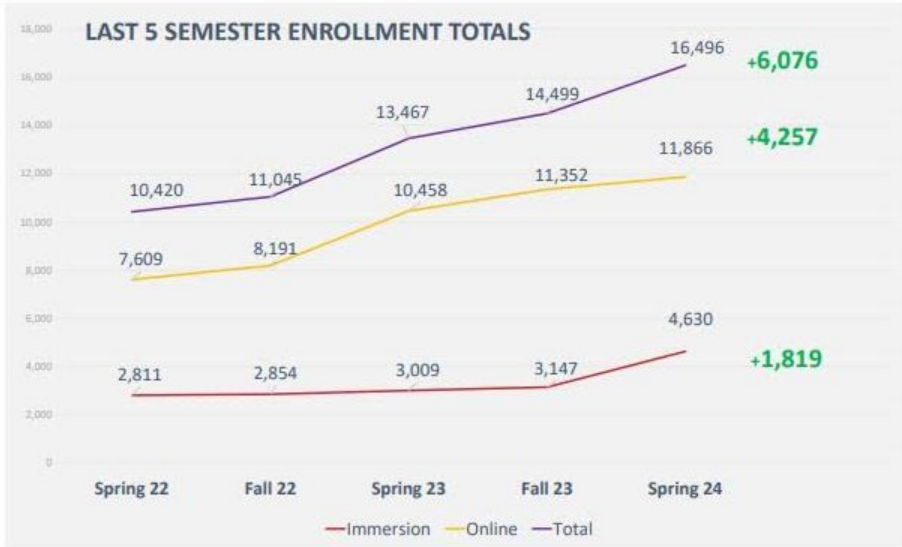
# Veteran Center Highlights

Shawn Banzhaf

Executive Director - Pat Tillman Veterans  
Center

Arizona State University

# SPRING 2024 ASU MILITARY-CONNECTED ENROLLMENT (as of Jan 29, 2024)





# Veteran Center Highlights

Andrea Banks

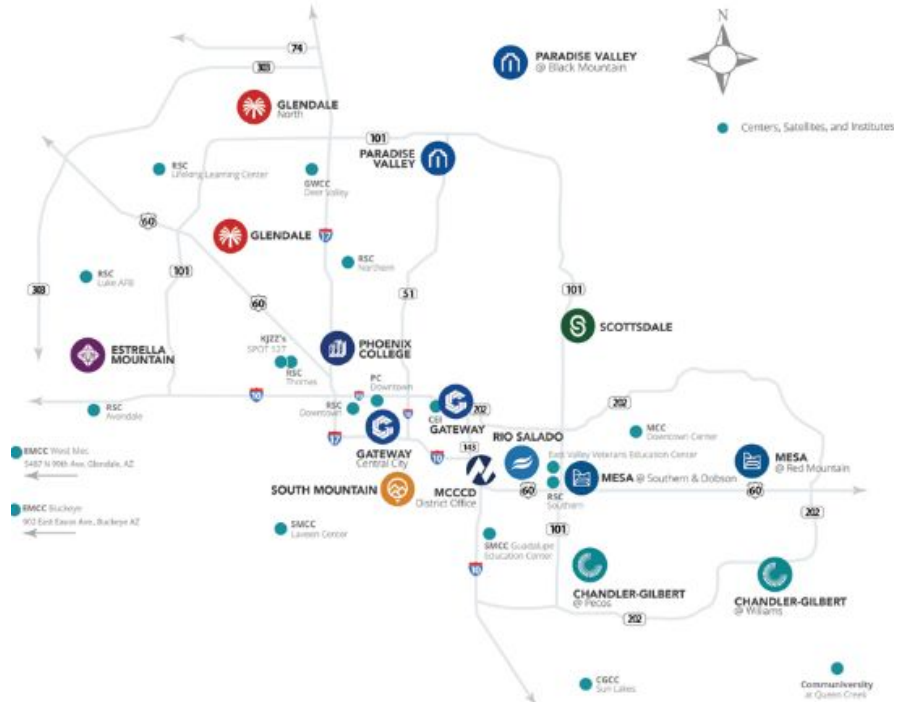
Maricopa Community Colleges



# MARICOPA

## COMMUNITY COLLEGES

- 10 Colleges
- 100,000 students each year
- Serve over 10,000 Veterans and their families
- 10 Veterans Centers
- All of our colleges are designated as Arizona Veteran Supportive Campuses
- We offer certificates, associate degrees and starting Fall 2023 semester, 7 bachelor's degrees





# Veteran Center Highlights

Michael Wainscott, Student Services  
Manager, Veterans Services  
Phoenix College

- 602.285.7427 or 602.285.7342
- [Michael.Wainscott@phoenixcollege.edu](mailto:Michael.Wainscott@phoenixcollege.edu)
- [Pc-veteran-services@phoenixcollege.edu](mailto:Pc-veteran-services@phoenixcollege.edu)





**PHOENIX COLLEGE**

A MARICOPA COMMUNITY COLLEGE

**[www.Phoenixcollege.edu](http://www.Phoenixcollege.edu)**

## **Value Statement**

Veterans Services at Phoenix College provides individualized enrollment and referral services to assist veterans and dependents in successfully meeting their educational and career goals. We are committed to providing uncompromising service by adhering to the highest standards of compassion, commitment, excellence, professionalism, integrity, accountability and stewardship.



# Veteran Center Highlights

**Nathan Kelley**

**Student Services Manager | Veteran  
Services**

**Estrella Mountain Community College**





**ESTRELLA MOUNTAIN  
COMMUNITY COLLEGE**

A MARICOPA COMMUNITY COLLEGE

- Mission: To help military members, veterans, and dependent students take advantage of the numerous educational opportunities by connecting them to their VA Education Benefits and any support services necessary for their academic, professional, and personal success.
- EMCC has a unique staffing model that has enhanced the experience we provide to military related students, staff, and community members.
- EMCC is the only Maricopa College West of the 101 and we serve the entire West Valley's educational needs.
- We strive to guide the student holistically. This means we get to know our students, so that we can help them in any way. We advise from the end goal backwards to assure proper sequencing when a goal is known. Provide nuance benefits usage tips and trips, help develop life skills, provide transition assistance, and connection to VA resources such as compensation and pension, AZDVS, or VA healthcare.





# Program Highlights



# Program Highlights



## Now Offering Affordable Bachelor's Degree Programs

It's never been easier to begin or finish your bachelor's degree at Maricopa Community Colleges.



**Artificial Intelligence and  
Machine Learning (BS)**

**Coming Fall 2025**



**Behavioral Sciences (BS)**



**Business Administration—  
Accounting (BBA)**

**Coming Fall 2025**



**Business Administration—  
Management (BBA)**

**Coming Fall 2025**



Data Analytics and  
Programming (BAS)



Early Childhood Education—  
Dual Language (BA)



Elementary Education and  
Special Education (BA)



Information Technology (BAS)



Nuclear Medicine Technology  
and Computed Tomography  
(BAS)



Public Safety Administration  
(BAS)



Registered Nurse to Bachelor  
of Science in Nursing (RN-BSN)

Coming Fall 2024





# Program Highlights



# Program Highlights

- Building out our support program for our students utilizing DoD TA - Operation 250
- Partnerships with our Social Work program connecting with the Prescott Medical VA
- Creating STEM Scholarship opportunities for the Veteran community
- Strengthening our partnership with NAU Career Development to provide stronger paths to employment



# Panel Discussion





# Activity

**How to create supportive environments for veterans in higher education**

**Exploring strategies to create an inclusive and supportive environment for veterans**



# Questions?







# Thank You!

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# Session Evaluation

We want to hear from you!

