



# ***MEDIA RELEASE***

**— For Immediate Release —**

## **25 Education Leaders Complete Training for College Access Professionals**

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*Phoenix, Arizona* – The Arizona College Access Network (AzCAN), a program of College Success Arizona, is proud to announce that 25 education leaders from across the state have completed the College Access Professional (CAP) certificate program, designed to develop the knowledge and skills necessary to help Arizona students succeed beyond high school.

These graduates earned the title of Arizona College Access Professional by completing 60 hours of coursework in three focus areas: creating a college-going culture; college and career planning; and financial aid and college applications. Arizona College Access Professionals are prepared to help all students plan for their future beyond high school and make informed decisions about their postsecondary education.

Arizona's CAP training is based on a national model, tailored to fit Arizona's educational needs. CAP training is intended to work as part of a community-wide effort, where school counselors work hand in hand with community based organizations to help prepare Arizona's students for their future, and the future of Arizona. New CAP training modules are added periodically as the needs of the students, and the state, change. The 2016 Arizona College Access Professionals represent eight school districts and three community based organizations.

Linda Jensen, Director of the Arizona College Access Network, says "CAP Training is a rigorous, hands-on combination of scholarly reading, online discussion and action planning, and these practitioners who earned the Arizona College Access Professional designation have demonstrated a remarkable commitment to their craft and to the students they serve. We recommend the training for all counselors, educators, administrators, and community based college access providers as we work together to increase Arizona's postsecondary attainment."

AzCAN is a network of college access professionals and programs dedicated to post high school success for all Arizonans, especially low-income, first-generation students. AzCAN's vision is that every Arizona student has the knowledge and resources necessary to successfully attain a postsecondary education, in order to succeed in life and contribute to the Arizona economy.

AZCan's members include nonprofits, high school staff, college outreach programs, funders, government agencies, and business leaders, all of whom are committed to closing the education attainment gap in our state.

For more information on AzCAN, or CAP Training, contact Shay Aleman, AzCAN's Membership Manager at (602) 710-1366 / or [saleman@azcollegeaccess.org](mailto:saleman@azcollegeaccess.org)

**About College Success Arizona:** College Success Arizona is a 501(c)3 not-for-profit organization working to significantly increase the postsecondary attainment rate of students in Arizona, particularly for those who otherwise would not be able to attend or graduate. The organization was started as the Arizona College Scholarship Foundation in 2005. For more information about College Success Arizona and its partners, visit [www.collegesuccessarizona.org](http://www.collegesuccessarizona.org).

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