



# International Student Digital Handbook

**2022-2023**

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# Preparing for ASU

## Pre-arrival checklist

Congratulations on your admission to ASU. [Here](#) is a guide to your important next steps before arriving on campus.

## Orientation

[International Arrival and Welcome](#) programs are designed to provide you with information, resources, tools, and tips to help you and your family make a successful transition to college life. Attending orientation will help you be better prepared for your first semester. At orientation, you will also be able to connect with your academic college and become familiar with your campus and learn about all of the many resources, opportunities and support networks available at ASU.

## Student Code of Conduct

Sun Devils are held to the highest standard of compliance with university policies to ensure every student at Arizona State University has the best experience possible. In order to do your part in understanding and abiding by these policies, familiarize yourself with the [ASU Code of Conduct](#), which has everything you need to know regarding what you can and cannot do as a student and representative of ASU.

## Housing Options

### Housing options - on campus

As a first-year student, you're expected to live on the campus in your [Residential College Community](#). Living at ASU promotes creative connections and innovation both inside and outside of the classroom while providing a supportive, close-knit environment

designed to set you up for success. Make sure to take advantage of the programs, events and amenities tailored to your major, including: tutoring, advising, and academic resources.

Below are the options and resources for on-campus housing.

- Information specific to international students about housing: [housing.asu.edu/housing-communities/international-student-housing](https://housing.asu.edu/housing-communities/international-student-housing)
- List of on-campus housings: [housing.asu.edu/housing-communities/residential-colleges](https://housing.asu.edu/housing-communities/residential-colleges)
- First-year student housing: [housing.asu.edu/freshman-housing](https://housing.asu.edu/freshman-housing)
- Upper-division housing: [housing.asu.edu/upper-division-housing](https://housing.asu.edu/upper-division-housing)
- Meal plans: [sundeildining.asu.edu/meal-plans](https://sundeildining.asu.edu/meal-plans)
- Housing rates: [housing.asu.edu/housing-resources/housing-rates-and-costs](https://housing.asu.edu/housing-resources/housing-rates-and-costs)

### Housing options - off-campus

[Here](#) is information for off-campus housing, including:

- [Find housing](#)
- [Find roommates](#)
- [Find subleases](#)
- [Renter Education Videos](#)





### Airport Transportation Options

There are two major airports in the Phoenix Metro Area, [Phoenix Sky Harbor International Airport](#) and [Phoenix-Mesa Gateway Airport](#). Most airlines operate from the Phoenix Sky Harbor International Airport.

To assist with your transition to campus, ASU has partnered with Lyft to provide new international students complimentary transportation from the Phoenix Sky Harbor Airport to your on- or off-campus housing location in the Phoenix metropolitan area.

- Fill out this [International Student Airport Transportation Form](#) to provide your arrival information and receive your customized Lyft code from ASU.\*

\* Complimentary Lyft ride is only available for new international students. Please submit this form at least 48-business hours prior to your flight.

For additional airport transportation options and information, please visit [here](#).



### Packing list

Here is a reference packing list to prepare for your travel to ASU\*.

#### Essential items in your carry-on:

- Passport
- Visa
- I-20
- Boarding pass
- US currency
- Credit/debit card
- Mobile phone
- Important documents, e.g., admission letter, SEVIS fee receipt, health and immunization records, financial support documents, etc.
- Local U.S. address
- A list of the names, addresses, phone numbers and email addresses of key contacts in the U.S. and at home.
- Valuables, such as currency, jewelry, laptop, etc.

#### Optional items in your carry-on:

- Medicines and doctor's prescriptions
- Charger/adaptor/converter
- Laptop/tablets
- Travel pillow
- Earplugs
- A light jacket

#### Items to carry in your checked bags:

- Clothes (casual, formals, shoes, undergarments, traditional outfits, sports outfits, etc.)
- Formal wear and suits for professional activities and career fairs
- Traditional dresses for cultural celebrations
- Utensils
- Books and stationary

\* See [U.S. Custom and Border Protection](#) website for detailed information regarding [Money and Other Monetary Instruments](#), [Prohibited and Restricted Items](#), etc.

# You have arrived! Now what?

In order to prepare for enriching experiences inside and outside of the classroom, there are some items we suggest taking care of once you arrive in the United States and before classes start.

\* Please be aware that ASU does not endorse any of the retailers and services listed below, regardless of their proximity to campus.

## Get U.S. Mobile Phone Service

Getting a U.S. mobile phone service is the foremost necessity for any students in the U.S. to stay connected with your friends and family. Some carriers may offer student discounts but it is best to check with the carrier directly. Some students also bring unlocked phones from their country and buy a U.S. sim card from a mobile provider. [AT&T](#), [T-Mobile](#) and [Verizon](#) are the three major U.S. cell phone carriers.

## Open a U.S. Bank Account

Managing your money is important to your success as a student, and it is highly recommended that one of the first things you do is to open a bank account with a local financial institution.

Opening a U.S.-based bank account will help you stick to a budget as well as make sending and receiving money easier. When you go to set up an account, be sure to get information about account types, debit cards, ATMs and any fees for using the bank and bank services. Please also check the bank's website or contact the bank ahead of time for a list of documents needed for opening an account.

[MidFirst Bank](#) is the official banking partner of Arizona State University. There are physical MidFirst branches on the Downtown Phoenix and Tempe campuses, but you can use all of the banking services at any location.

There are also other major banks close to campus like [Bank of America](#), [Chase](#), and [Wellsfargo](#), etc.

[OneAZ Credit Union](#) is physically located on the main level of the Memorial Union on the Tempe Campus, but you can use all of the banking services at any location.

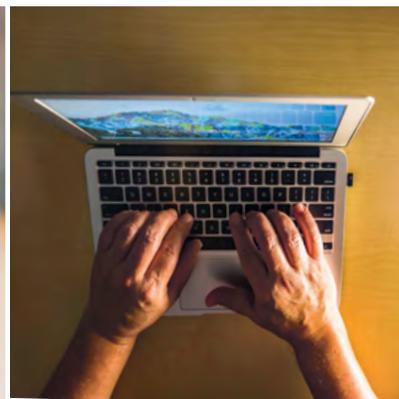
Here is a list of [Banks and ATMs](#) on campus.

## Electronic Stores

With advances in technology, you may need to purchase a few electronics to support your educational experiences. The [ASU Bookstore](#) and [Sun Devil Marketplace](#) have university essentials including laptops, external hard drives and more. Stores like [Best Buy](#) and [Fry's Electronics](#) can help you find items like TVs and gaming consoles.

## Furniture Stores

Make your on-campus or off-campus housing space your own. Stores like [IKEA](#), [Walmart](#), [Target](#), etc. can help you furnish your living space with essential items and some to show your personality. It's a good idea to plan ahead, as some items may not be available in the store and may have to be ordered and shipped to you. You can also find used furniture and essentials at cheaper prices at your nearby [Goodwill](#) stores and [Gracie's Thrift Store](#).





### Bike Stores

A big portion of the ASU population use bikes for commuting to campus and other daily activities. A few facts created by the ASU Wellness team about biking to the campus are listed below:

- People who commute by bicycle are the happiest commuters.
- On peak days, there are more than 13,500 bicycles on campus in Tempe.
- Wearing a helmet reduces your chances of serious injury. (Reference: [Bicycle Helmet Safety Institute](#))

Here are a few resources to buy new and used bikes:

- [Walmart](#)
- [Bikesaviours](#)
- [Facebook Marketplace](#)

### Local Grocery Stores

Grocery stores carry a variety of items from fresh meats, fruits, and vegetables to packaged and canned food as well as household items like cleaning supplies, paper products, and health and beauty care. Many offer reward programs that provide discounts on select items to help save money. Common grocery stores in the Metro Phoenix Area include [Walmart](#), [Target](#), [Albertsons](#), [Bashas](#), [Food City](#), [Fry's](#) and [Safeway](#), etc.

[Yelp](#) and [Google maps](#) are great resources to find the locations and directions to the popular groceries store near your residence.

### International Grocery Stores

One of the most common things that international students miss is food. Nothing can make you feel more welcomed in a new place than cuisine from your home country. Whether you want to find your favorite entrée or side dish or explore flavors from countries other than your own, there are several international grocery stores to help you find what you are looking for.

#### Tempe

- [Mekong Plaza \(Asian\)](#)
- [Lotus International Market \(Indian\)](#)
- [Defalco's \(Italian\)](#)
- [FUJIYA Market \(Japanese\)](#)
- [Haji Baba Middle Eastern Food \(Middle Eastern\)](#)
- [AZ International Marketplace \(Latin America, Africa, broader range of Asian countries\)](#)
- [Lee Lee International Supermarket – Chandler \(Variety\)](#)
- [H Mart \(Asian\)](#)

#### Downtown Phoenix

- [Los Altos Ranch Market \(Hispanic\)](#)
- [Yasha From Russia \(Russian and Eastern European\)](#)

#### Polytechnic

- [El-Rancho Market \(Hispanic\)](#)
- [Mekong Plaza \(Asian\)](#)
- [H Mart \(Asian\)](#)

#### West

- [Asiana Market \(Asian\)](#)
- [88 International Market \(Variety, Asian, African, and more\)](#)

## Shopping Malls

Arizona has a variety of shopping malls where you can find everything you need from branded stores like Nike, H&M, Forever 21, etc. to service stores like salons and food courts. Some of shopping malls close to campus are:

### Tempe

- [Tempe Marketplace](#)
- [Arizona Mills](#)
- [Scottsdale Fashion Square](#)

### Downtown Phoenix

- [Arizona Center](#)
- [Biltmore Fashion Park](#)

### Polytechnic

- [Gilbert Gateway Towne Center](#)
- [SanTan Village](#)
- [Queen Creek Marketplace](#)
- [Chandler Fashion Center](#)

### West

- [Deer Valley Towne Center](#)

## Local Restaurants

There are many chain and local restaurants around campus. There are also many restaurants around campus where you can find delicacies from your home country. [Yelp](#) is a great resource to find dining places near you.

[Doordash](#), [UberEats](#), and [Grubhub](#) are good resources to order food online or food delivery services.

## Mailing Services

The [USPS](#) can assist you in mailing parcels around the world, whether you're purchasing stamps, packaging or sending your item. They will also rent you a P.O. Box so your mail is stored until you pick it up. Private companies like [FedEx](#) and [UPS](#) can also help you with your shipping needs.

# ASU Campus Locations



## Local Transportation

Arizona State University has four campuses located throughout the Phoenix Metro area. ASU operates campus shuttles to assist students in getting around the larger campuses and to and from each campus. Public transportation is also available so you can explore the surrounding area in your spare time.

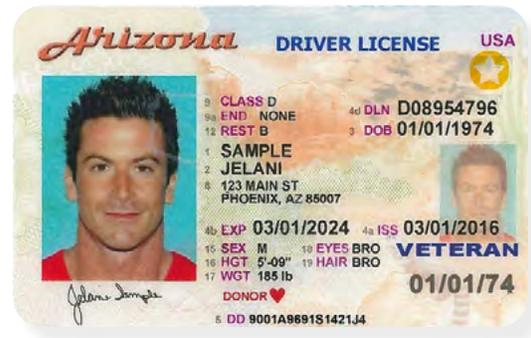
## Campus Shuttle

ASU intercampus shuttles offer transportation for students, faculty and staff between all campuses: Tempe, Polytechnic, Downtown Phoenix and West, with additional routes from Tempe to the Mayo Clinic and from West to Thunderbird. All you need is your ASU Sun Card to board. Bicycle and wheelchair accommodations are available on all buses.

## Public Transportation

There are several public transportation options like [Valley Metro Light Rail](#), which has stops on the Tempe and Downtown Phoenix campuses, [Valley Metro Bus](#), [Orbit](#) buses, taxis, [Uber](#) or [Lyft](#) for your daily commuting needs - going to campus, buying groceries and meeting your friends, and more.

The cities of [Tempe](#), [Phoenix](#), [Mesa](#) and [Glendale](#) all have information on how to effectively use public transportation to get you where you need to go.



## Driver's License

Getting a driver's license is not only necessary if you have a vehicle or plan on purchasing or operating one during your stay at Arizona State University – and within the United States, but recommended to use as a form of ID card while in the U.S. A driver's license will provide you with sufficient proof of identity throughout your stay in the United States. By having an official U.S. identification card, you will not have to carry your passport around with you all the time.

Visit the [Arizona Department of Motor Vehicles](#) office closest to you to get your ID card or driver's license. Please check [the website](#) for a list of documents needed to apply for a driver's license. Make sure you also read about [car insurance requirements](#) in Arizona.



## ASU Traditions

ASU was founded in 1885. After more than 130 years, it's no surprise that the university is steeped in lots of rich [Traditions](#).

## Find your Community

Your life at ASU will be filled with educational, social, cultural, and professional activities, engaging you in academically rigorous research, internships and classroom discussion. Your personal development and social awareness will be enhanced through outside of the classroom events and opportunities.

### Coalition of International Students

The [Coalition of International Students](#) aims to promote communication among all international student organizations in order to coordinate and consolidate activities of international students while promoting understanding among the various cultures within the university and community at large.



### SunDevilSync

SunDevilSync is a platform which hosts information about various clubs and organizations, and their events throughout the year. You can find [organizations](#) based on your interest and future on-campus and off-campus [events](#) organized by these organizations.

### Intramural Sports

[Sun Devil Intramural Sports](#) offers members of the ASU community the opportunity to participate in a variety of activities in a wide range of skill levels and many different formats. Sun Devil Intramurals is a great way to enhance your ASU experience by meeting new people, building relationships, taking a healthy break from studying or, most importantly, having fun!



# Religion and Spirituality

Arizona State University is an inclusive community that welcomes individuals from all backgrounds, religions and faiths. We encourage students to openly practice whatever faiths and religions they follow. There are many faith communities surrounding each campus location and we invite you to explore as many of those communities as you choose.

## Downtown Phoenix

- [Central United Methodist Church](#)
- [Grace Lutheran Church](#)
- [Phoenix Community Kollel](#)
- [Roosevelt Community Church](#)
- [Saint George Anglican Community](#)
- [Saint Mary's Basilica](#)
- [Saint Anthony Catholic Church](#)
- [Trinity Episcopal Cathedral](#)

## Polytechnic

- [Chabad Jewish Center of Gilbert](#)
- [Church of Jesus Christ of LDS](#)
- [Gateway Fellowship Church](#)
- [Saint Mary Magdalene Catholic Church](#)
- [Song of Life United Methodist Church](#)

## Tempe

- [All Saints Catholic Newman Center](#)
- [Community Christian Church](#)
- [Episcopal Campus Ministries](#)
- [First Southern Baptist Church on Mill](#)
- [Hillel Jewish Student Center](#)
- [International Bible Church](#)
- [Islamic Community Center of Tempe](#)
- [Lutheran Campus Ministry/University Lutheran Church](#)
- [Memorial Union Interfaith Reflection Room](#)
- [Tempe Month Meeting of the Religious Society of Friends – Quakers](#)
- [Tempe First United Methodist Church](#)
- [Temple Emanuel](#)
- [The Faithful City in the Desert Metro-Church](#)
- [University Presbyterian Church](#)

## West

- [Apostles Lutheran Church](#)
- [Apollo Baptist Church](#)
- [Chabad House](#)
- [Pure Heart Christian Fellowship](#)
- [St. Helen Catholic Church](#)
- [Christ's Community Church](#)

# Culture

## Culture Celebrations

With international students from over 130 different countries, you have a myriad of opportunities to celebrate global cultures and languages at ASU.

**Culture Celebrations** are student-led events throughout the course of the academic year designed to showcase countries and cultures from around the world. This is your chance to get involved, ask questions, support diversity at ASU, and become a part of an emerging world community.

## Heritage Month and Week Celebrations

Throughout the academic year, Arizona State University dedicates months and weeks to **honoring Sun Devils' heritage**. The rich, diverse community of ASU students present many opportunities to celebrate traditions. The major heritage month and week celebrations include -

Asian Pacific American Heritage Month, Black History Month, Global Celebration Month, Hispanic and Latinx Heritage Month, Indigenous Culture Week, International Education Week, Native American Heritage Month, Out @ ASU week, Pride Week, Trans Awareness Week, Women's HERstory Month, and Interfaith Harmony Week.

## International Education Week

**International Education Week** celebrates the benefit of international education and worldwide global exchanges. Students, faculty and staff from all locations collaborate to design events that showcase the global vision of ASU and how they can make local and global impact on the economy, arts & culture and the environment. It is a celebratory educational opportunity in November that fosters globally-minded leaders at ASU.



## Preparing for Success

### International Student Engagement

**International Student Engagement** supports, advocates and designs experiences for international undergraduate and graduate students from admittance through graduation.

ISE provides students with personal and professional development opportunities outside of the classroom. Students build community, develop their leadership skills and participate in our many global celebrations.

### International Students and Scholars Center

**The International Students and Scholars Center** works to facilitate the success of international students during their stay in the U.S. by providing assistance with F-1/J-1 visa compliance in accordance with the U.S. Department of Homeland Security's and Department of State's immigration regulations. We also provide support with academic integration, employment opportunities, leadership development, and communication skills.

### Social Security Number

In the U.S. a Social Security Number is issued to track earnings over a worker's lifetime. Scholars who are employed in the U.S. must apply for an SSN. F-1 and J-1 students that have secured an on-campus job are eligible to apply for a Social Security Number. International scholars who are unemployed are ineligible for an SSN. **The International Students and Scholars Center** and the **federal government** have more information regarding the requirements to apply for an SSN.



## ASU Library

**ASU Library** is home to eight library facilities across four ASU campuses, providing students and faculty access to millions of information resources, world-class collections, outstanding study spaces and research centers, and a suite of maker services. The Libraries located in the four different campuses are listed below:

### Tempe

- [Noble Library](#)
- [Hayden Library](#)
- [Music Library](#)
- [Design and the Arts Library](#)

### West

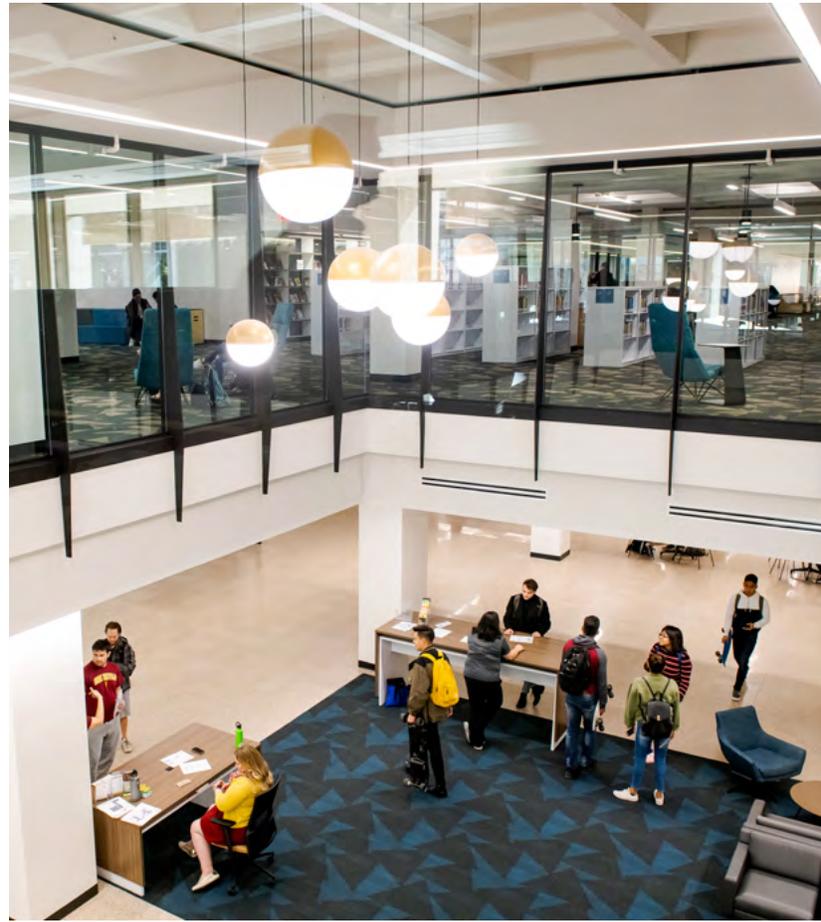
- [Fletcher Library](#)

### Downtown Phoenix

- [Downtown Phoenix Library](#)

### Polytechnic

- [Polytechnic Library](#)



## Creativity Commons

**Creativity Commons** is the center of information technology and computing for ASU. The Commons' Atrium is an open access, 225-workstation computing site complete with Mac and Windows workstations. The Commons also provides wired classrooms and meeting spaces.

## Career and Professional Development Services

**Career and Professional Development Services** is committed to your individual career success. No matter what stage you are at, a student looking to chart your career path, a new professional looking to nail down your career goals or a seasoned professional looking to take the next step, we have thought about the unique support and resources you will need.

Career and Professional Development Services offers:

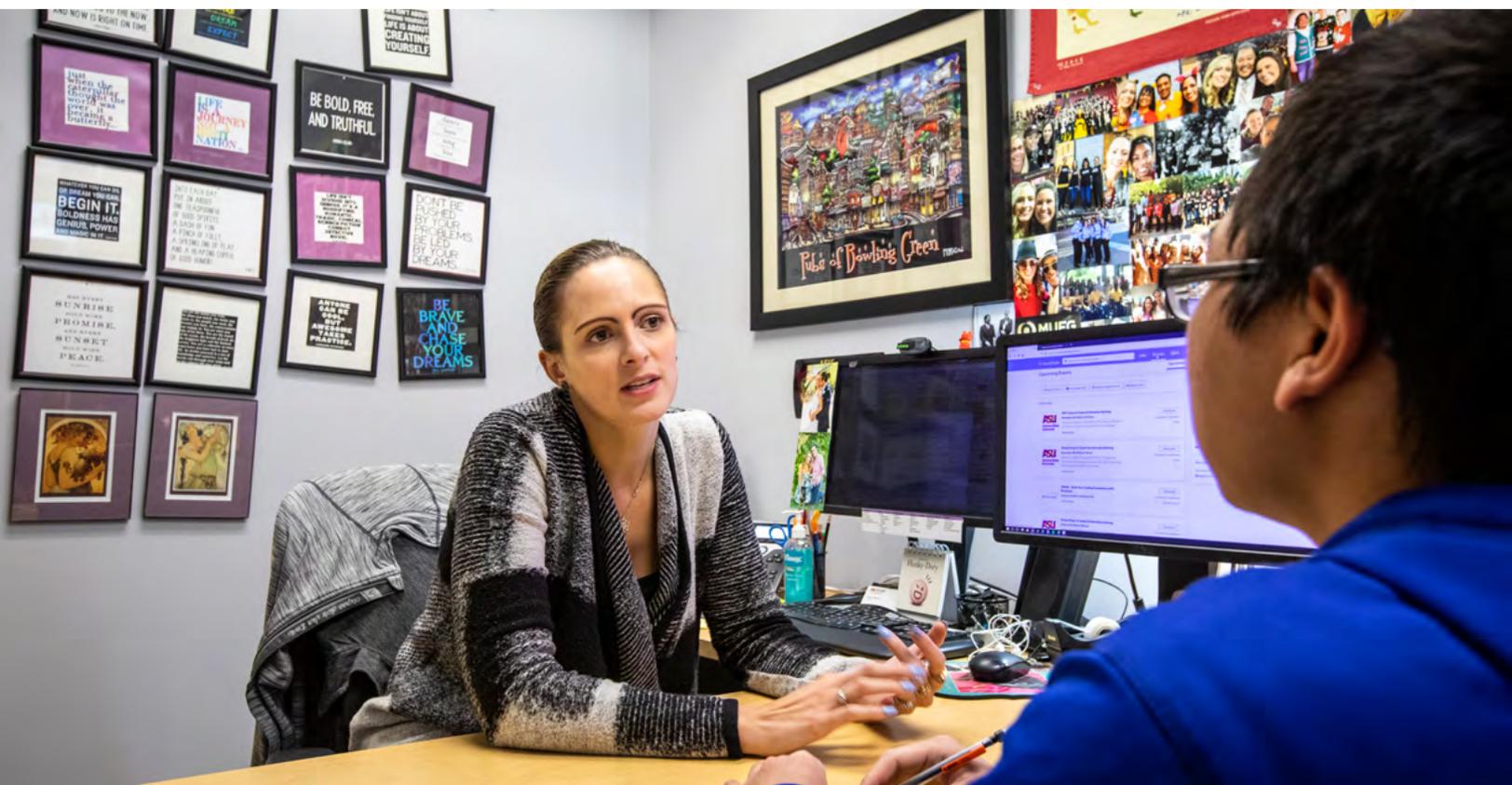
- One-on-one career advising including Global Career appointments for international students
- Professional mentoring with community partners and alumni in various career sectors
- Internship and full-time job postings in the U.S. and globally
- Info sessions targeted towards specific professional topics
- Hiring events and networking opportunities with employers and alumni

## On-Campus Employment

Gaining real-world experience is vital to your success. Whether you take a job or volunteer in your career interest area, college is a great time to gain experience and explore a variety of areas to narrow down your career path. You have the opportunity to earn money for your educational and living expenses as well as gain valuable skills that put you ahead of your peers. The skills you obtain from working complement your academic performance and communicate to future employers your ability to succeed in a professional setting. More information about on-campus employment can be found [here](#).

Benefits to working in a student job:

- Additional financial resources.
- Acquire valuable work experience for your résumé.
- Reduce necessity for student loans.
- Opportunity for networking with professionals.
- Opportunity to sample different career choices.
- Valuable and practical career-related experiences.
- Exposure to the world of work.
- Opportunity to enhance fundamental work skills.
- Develop a sense of community and involvement with ASU.



**Volunteer**

Becoming a volunteer allows you to learn more about areas of possible career interest before making a commitment to a career field. Volunteering teaches you to help people while becoming more involved in your community and developing communication,

critical thinking and customer service skills. [Changemaker Central](#) and [ASU Project Humanities](#) are two on-campus volunteer organizations. The cities of [Glendale](#), [Mesa](#), [Phoenix](#) and [Tempe](#) have opportunities as well.





## Changemaker Central @ ASU

**Changemaker Central @ ASU** is a community of like-minded students that are leading social change in our local and global community. With Changemaker spaces and programs on all four ASU campuses, our student team is prepared to help you navigate the many ways you can make a difference at ASU.

## First-Year Success Center

The **First-Year Success Center** is an award-winning, high-impact, dynamic Center that treats every student like a VIP through a variety of peer coaching services. Success coaching empowers students to thrive both inside and outside the classroom, and it's customized to individual interests, strengths, and needs. Demonstrating how the right person at the right time can change a life, FYS coaches work with students on everything from transition (adjusting to college life) to transformation (realizing potential and dreams). FYS coaches answer questions about college life and provide insider tips and advice on academics, getting involved, finding scholarships, and more.

## Health and Wellness

**Live Well @ ASU** empowers the Sun Devil community to achieve a healthy lifestyle through four foundational elements: Live, Feel, Learn and Engage. Each element helps you build your best you by contributing to your physical, mental, spiritual and social well-being.

The information, resources and involvement opportunities found in each element are designed to positively impact your academic performance, personal well-being and assist you in reaching your full potential.



Live



Feel



Learn



Engage

## ASU Counseling Services

**ASU Counseling Services** are for any Sun Devil, regardless of your race, gender, sexual orientation, age, student status, religion, ability, size, financial situation, the issue you're dealing with or whether you've had counseling before. Something as simple as talking to someone can help you feel better, improve your grades and manage stress.

## ASU Health Services

**ASU Health Services** is dedicated to the well-being and educational success of each individual student by providing high-quality health care that is accessible, affordable and compassionate. ASU health services offers various services which includes **Clinical Laboratory, Medication, STI testing, Radiology and X-Ray, and Immunizations.**

### **International Student Health Insurance**

Health Insurance is mandatory for all registered international students and a condition of enrollment. Read more about the requirements and AETNA Student Health Insurance at the [International Student Health Requirements](#) page.

### **Sun Devil Fitness**

[ASU's Sun Devil Fitness](#) enhances the ASU experience by providing programs, services and facilities that promote healthy lifestyles, build community and enable student success. Sun Devil Fitness offers a variety of recreation, fitness and sport opportunities that include intramurals, group fitness, personal training, sport clubs and instructional classes.

### **Student Accessibility and Inclusive Services**

The [Student Accessibility and Inclusive Learning Services](#) provides services to qualified students with disabilities on all ASU campuses. For convenience, students will find offices located at the Downtown, Polytechnic, Tempe, and West locations.

### **Safety at ASU**

Arizona State University provides a safe, healthy, and secure environment. ASU is committed towards maintaining a healthy and secure campus community for students, staff, and faculty. ASU safety services include campus police, safety escort services and safe-zones.

#### **[ASU Campus Police](#)**

The Arizona State University Police Department is committed to the safety of ASU students, faculty and staff. The ASU Police Department main headquarters are on the Tempe campus, with substations at Downtown, Polytechnic and West campuses. The police department operates 24 hours a day, 365 days a year and answers all 911 calls and administrative phone lines for each campus.

#### **[ASU LiveSafe Mobile App](#)**

Connect with the ASU Police and campus safety services through the ASU LiveSafe app. Report emergencies, request Safety Escort Service, access ASU crime alerts and more. The ASU LiveSafe mobile app does not replace 911 emergency services or any local police department communications.

#### **[Safety Escort Services](#)**

This service provides safe and free rides across ASU Tempe's campus throughout the semester in ASU golf carts and vans. This service is available for all staff, faculty, and students on campus seven days a week from 7 p.m. to 2 a.m. The service can be reached by phone at 480-965-1515 and by requesting a saferide on Livesafe app.



## University Academic Success Programs

**University Academic Success Programs** provides free services to help you succeed at ASU. Students who take advantage of these services tend to perform better academically. All of the tutors and Supplemental Instruction leaders are current ASU students who have excelled in their course work. A few of its programs are discussed below.

### Tutoring and Academics Success

ASU is committed to ensuring you achieve all your education-related goals by providing a variety of student success resources.

#### Tutoring

University Academic Success Programs' tutoring centers offer free support to enrolled ASU students in Math, Science, Business, Statistics, and Engineering. Students can visit the tutoring centers to work with a peer tutor, attend review sessions before major exams, and utilize prep sessions to refresh their knowledge on core concepts to prepare them for their upcoming coursework.

#### Writing Tutoring

ASU provides a wealth of services to foster the academic success of our diverse student population. This system allows you to schedule writing, foreign language and online writing appointments as well as schedule your Adaptive Learning exams.

#### Academic Skills Tutors

UASP academic skills tutors are ASU students who can help you stay on track, improve academic skills and address any concerns you may have in your courses. The peer-to-peer interaction and mentorship

create a comfortable, encouraging atmosphere for students seeking assistance in developing good study habits.

During academic skills tutoring visits, you can - increase your knowledge of campus resources, gain advice and support from a fellow student, develop communication skills to work with your professors and academic advisor, strengthen your time management and study skills, and work on setting academic goals and measure your progress.

### Graduate Academic Support Center

Graduate Academic Support Center provides support for graduate students by offering a dynamic, supportive learning environment and programs for ASU students enrolled in any graduate certificate or graduate degree program.

#### Graduate Statistics Tutoring

Graduate statistics tutoring provides graduate students with free one-on-one appointment-based tutoring for coursework as well as peer guidance on the quantitative analysis portion of theses, dissertations, or other research projects. Graduate students can make an appointment with a tutor to discuss and work on their needs.

#### Graduate Writing Tutoring

Graduate students can work with graduate writing tutors at any stage of the writing process to hone their writing skills and to receive coaching advice about navigating graduate life. ASU offers both online writing tutoring in addition to four on-campus locations to serve ASU graduate students.



## Things to do

Arizona, a southwestern U.S. state, is best known for the [Grand Canyon](#), the mile-deep chasm carved by the [Colorado River](#). [Flagstaff](#), a ponderosa pine-covered mountain town, is a major gateway to the Grand Canyon and home to Northern Arizona University. Another natural site is [Saguaro National Park](#) which protects the cactus-filled [Sonoran Desert](#) landscape. [Tucson](#) is University of Arizona territory and home to the [Arizona-Sonora Desert Museum](#).

### Arizona Museum of Natural History

The [Arizona Museum of Natural History](#) is your place for dinosaurs that roar and so much more! The museum is a place for family fun. Where else can you see a flash flood cascading down a three-story mountain without getting wet?

### i.d.e.a. museum

Developed specifically for kids from birth through 12 years of age. World-class art hangs at children's eye level and is interspersed with hands-on craft, activity, and play areas. Learn more about the i.d.e.a museum [here](#).

### Arizona State University Art Museum

The [ASU Art Museum](#) collects and presents works of art to stimulate, educate and delight a diverse audience. In particular, the ASU Art Museum strives to showcase contemporary art, new media, ceramics and other crafts, prints, art from Arizona and the Southwest and art of the Americas.

### Deer Valley Rock Art Center

In May 2000 Phoenix named this wonderful attraction in the northwest part of the city a Phoenix Point of Pride. This is the location of the Hedgpeth Hills petroglyph site. There are more than 1,500 recorded petroglyphs on almost 600 boulders. Bring your binoculars! The center is operated by the ASU Department of Anthropology. Free admission for ASU students. [Deer Valley Rock Art Center](#).

### Desert Botanical Garden

The [Desert Botanical Garden](#) is located in Papago Park in central Phoenix. This Phoenix Point of Pride combines desert plants with desert wildlife that can both be seen from short trails that are well marked. Items of interest are described in guidebooks. Check the events calendar for classes, workshops, concerts and more.



### Hall of Flame Museum of Firefighting

The [Hall of Flame Museum of Firefighting](#) has almost an acre of fire history exhibits, with over 90 fully restored pieces of fire apparatus on display, dating from 1725 to 1969. It's one of our best kept secrets in the Valley of the Sun.

### Papago Park

Located near downtown Phoenix, there are many wonderful activities at [Papago Park](#). Besides being a great urban retreat, there are fishing lagoons, a very popular municipal golf course, hiking trails, unique museums like the Hall of Flame firefighting museum, and an archeological site. You probably will need a couple of days to enjoy all that this Phoenix Point of Pride has to offer.

### Phoenix Art Museum

The [Phoenix Art Museum](#) has been open since 1959 and is one of the largest general visual arts institutions in the Southwest. The collection includes over 17,000 works and spans the centuries. The Phoenix Art Museum emphasizes American art, Asian art, European art of the 14th-19th centuries, Western American art, Modern and Contemporary art, Spanish Colonial art and Latin American art, 18th-20th century Fashion Design, and the Thorne Miniature Rooms. There are also exhibits and special programs for the younger art lovers.

### Phoenix Zoo

This Phoenix Point of Pride is the nation's largest privately-owned nonprofit zoo. It has more than 1,300 animals, including 150 endangered or threatened birds, mammals and reptiles from around the world. The Arizona Trail at the Phoenix Zoo focuses on plants and animals of the American Southwest. [Phoenix Zoo](#).

### Scottsdale Museum of Contemporary Art

Five galleries and a sculpture garden make up the nucleus of this new facility. Additional exhibits of interest include displays of international art, architecture and design, with a predominant focus on hometown attributes. Free admission 5-9 pm on Friday and Saturday. [Scottsdale Museum of Contemporary Art](#).

### South Mountain Park

[South Mountain Park](#) is the world's largest municipal park covering 16,500 acres. Petroglyphs, hiking trails for all levels, biking, horseback riding and scenic drives and, of course, picnicking, are the most popular activities at this spot in southern Phoenix.

### Piestewa Peak Recreational Area

Formerly known as Squaw Peak and right in the middle of Phoenix, you'll find one of the most popular places for climbing a mountain. There are two main attractions at this Phoenix Point of Pride: the Summit Trail and the Circumference Trail. It's 1.2 miles to the peak's summit, which offers a spectacular view. Free admission! [Piestewa Peak Recreational Area](#).

### Tempe History Museum

[The Tempe History Museum](#) is a center where the community comes together to celebrate Tempe's past and ponder the future. It is a community history museum that explores Tempe's identity and builds connections between residents and their community. Free admission!

### Find more...

For more attractions visit the following sites:

Tempe: [tempecvb.com](http://tempecvb.com)

Phoenix: [visitphoenix.com](http://visitphoenix.com)

Glendale: [visitglendale.com](http://visitglendale.com)

Mesa: [visitmesa.com](http://visitmesa.com)

Gilbert: [visitgilbertaz.com](http://visitgilbertaz.com)

Scottsdale: [experiencescottsdale.com](http://experiencescottsdale.com)

Arizona office of Tourism: [tourism.az.gov](http://tourism.az.gov)

Visit Arizona: [visitarizona.com](http://visitarizona.com)



