



ECAP At A Glance

Education and Career Action Plan

WHAT

ECAP is an ongoing process that empowers students to create a meaningful and individualized plan toward postsecondary success. With support and guidance from their families, school personnel and other advisors, students undergo a process of:



ECAP personalizes the education experience by helping students align coursework and extracurricular activities to a career pathway that reflects their individual interests, skills, and values.

ECAP develops the awareness, knowledge, and skills necessary for students to make informed decisions for maximized lifetime employability in living-wage careers.

ECAP is a tool that connects students to the multiple resources and initiatives in Arizona that provide support and guidance for career and college readiness.

WHY ECAP?

Many Arizona students are not prepared for college and career

- Compared to the rising national average of 83%, Arizona only graduates **78%** of our students on time
- Nearly **60%** of students that attend Arizona community colleges require remediation courses
- Only **47%** of high school graduates qualify to enroll in our public universities
- By the year 2020, **68%** of all jobs in Arizona will require postsecondary education or training

EXPLORE
PLAN
DECIDE



Results of a Quality ECAP Process

- Increases student motivation and goal setting
- Improves school attendance and grades
- Helps students see connections between coursework and future success
- Guides students toward rigorous coursework
- Increases communication between schools and families
- Creates a future qualified workforce



HOW

The ECAP process results in a student portfolio.

Students outline their secondary and postsecondary plans aligned to their career aspirations. The portfolio documents completed activities and the skills and knowledge developed throughout their ECAP process.

An ECAP process portfolio has four attributes which should be documented, reviewed and updated, at minimum, annually:

<u>Academic</u> • Plan coursework to meet High School requirements • Document postsecondary education goals • Record academic achievements/awards	<u>Career</u> • Explore career opportunities • Define a career goal aligned to personal interests, skills, and values • Explore needed educational requirements to achieve the career goal
<u>Postsecondary</u> • Explore admissions requirements • Complete necessary applications • Create a financial assistance plan	<u>Extracurricular</u> • Clubs, leadership opportunities, CTSO, athletics, community service, work experience, internships, job shadowing • Enhance college applications and resumes • Explore interests and skills

The ECAP process takes collaboration.

Students complete the ECAP process with the guidance of their families, supportive adults at their school, and members of the larger community.

An ECAP does not replace an IEP or a CTE-POS.

ECAP complements other individual plans such as an Individual Education Plan (IEP) in Special Education or a Programs of Study (POS) in Career Technical Education. The ECAP process is a whole-school effort that includes all students and all school staff.

CONTACT

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LEARN MORE

ECAP Website

<http://www.azed.gov/ecap>

Arizona Career Information System

<http://azcis.intocareers.org>