



**MARICOPA**  
COMMUNITY COLLEGES

## Addressing the Rapidly Evolving IT and Cybersecurity Landscape

### Educational Programs

- Maricopa Community Colleges offers **top-ranked, affordable IT programs** in high-demand skills like Python, Java, and Amazon Web Services.



- These degree and short-term certificate programs have been **recognized nationally as affordable and rigorous**, preparing students for dynamic IT and cybersecurity careers.

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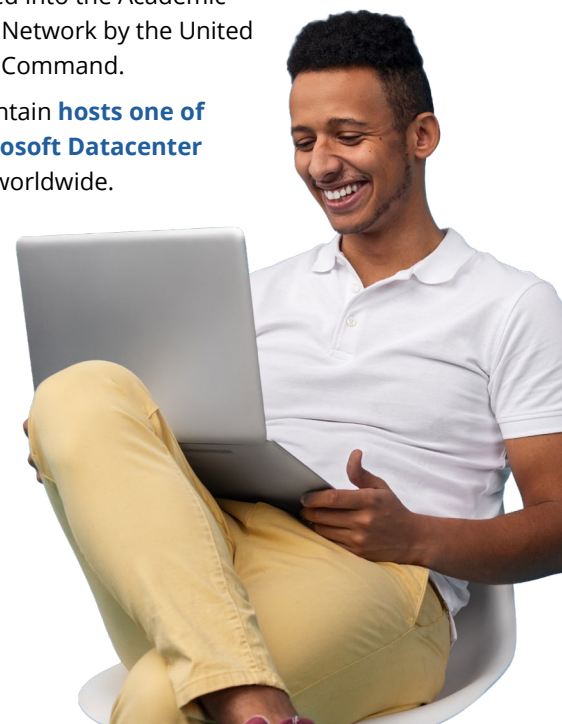
Occupational outlook experts project that there will be an additional **15,000 information technology jobs in Maricopa County by 2033**, a 17.8 percent increase from 2022 (Lightcast, 2024).

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### Academic Excellence in IT on a National Scale

Maricopa Community Colleges remains committed to providing cutting-edge technologies and programs to strengthen Maricopa County and the state of Arizona.

- Chandler-Gilbert and Estrella Mountain Community Colleges received the Governor's Celebration of **Innovation Award for their AI degree program** with Intel.
- Glendale Community College's Cybersecurity program has been named a **National Center for Academic Excellence in Cyber Defense**; it has been accepted into the Academic Engagement Network by the United States Cyber Command.
- Estrella Mountain **hosts one of only 20 Microsoft Datacenter Academies** worldwide.

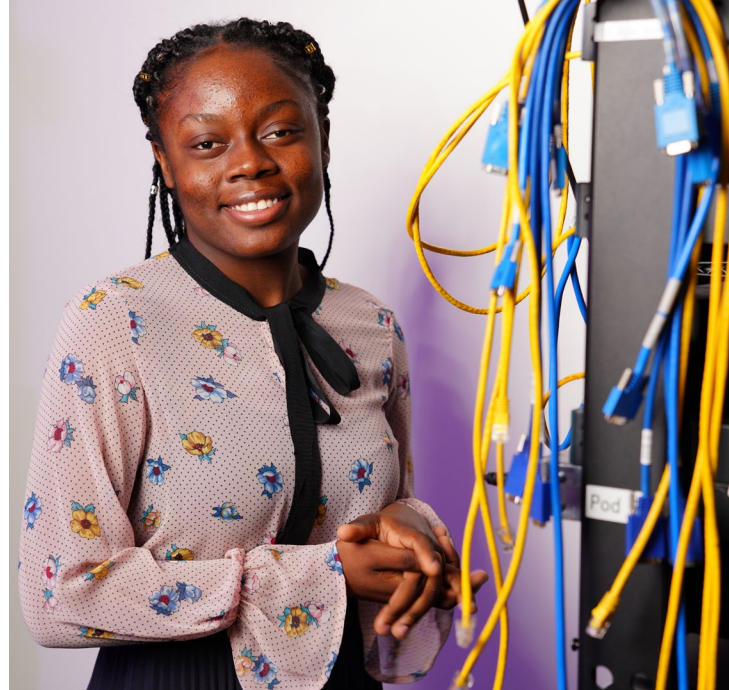


### Expanding into Bachelor's Degrees in IT

Phoenix College launched a **Bachelor of Applied Science in IT** in Fall 2023, addressing industry needs, making education affordable, and promoting professional equity.

### Diversifying the IT Talent Pipeline

While men continue to compose 73 percent of the IT industry (Lightcast, 2024), Maricopa Community Colleges has launched unique programs to close gender gaps and spark interest in the industry among women.



### Girls Get IT Conference

Hosted by Chandler-Gilbert, Glendale, Mesa, and Scottsdale Community Colleges, **this annual event introduces over 200 high school girls to IT careers.** Participants engage in interactive workshops on emerging technologies and professional opportunities. Partners supporting the conference include Salt River Project, Microchip Technology, Nationwide, the Center for the Future of Arizona, Infosys, and the Mesa Chamber of Commerce.

### Hermanas Conference

Funded by the APS Foundation and organized by Chandler-Gilbert, Estrella Mountain, and Phoenix College, this conference aims to increase the number of underrepresented female students in STEM and enhance the diversity of the STEM workforce. Since its inception in 2005, **Hermanas has served over 6,500 students from more than 50 schools across Maricopa County.**

**Explore Maricopa Community College computer and IT programs.**

#### Reference:

Lightcast. (2024). *Occupation overview: 16 computer and mathematical occupations in Maricopa County, AZ.*

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