Who We Are: 2011-12

**Rio Salado College** is one of 10 Maricopa Community Colleges, and the largest online public community college in the nation. Established in 1978, Rio Salado College successfully meets the educational needs of traditional students, working adults and other specialized populations. Rio Salado’s use of innovative learning formats provides flexible and affordable options to those who might otherwise struggle with the traditional college experience.

As a recognized national leader in online learning, Rio Salado College is up to the challenge of preparing today’s students for the jobs of tomorrow. Affordable tuition combined with hundreds of online course offerings allow students to take classes at their convenience and realize their educational goals.

2011-12 Student Headcount

- 67,273* total
- 56,031 credit
- 9,795 non-credit
- 1,605 customized non-credit workforce training students

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**A Recognized Leader**

The college takes pride in its national reputation as a leader in higher education. During the 2011-12 academic year, the college was awarded a variety of special recognitions. A few are highlighted below:

- One of three institutions nationwide to have received the Council for Higher Education Award for outstanding student outcome practices.
- Recognized as one of 12 high performing online institutions by the Gates Foundation.
- Called Visionary Higher-Education Leader in *Forbes* magazine.
- Featured as a case study in *The Innovative University: Changing the DNA of Higher Education*.
- Featured as an innovative, low-cost, high quality, productive model for higher education in the Lumina Foundation’s *Focus* magazine.
- Received a $1.2 million National Science Foundation Noyce Grant to support the recruitment and training of STEM professionals to teach science or math in grades 7-12.
- Awarded five workforce development grants totaling more than $3 million to create programs, increase classroom technology use and improve civics education in Arizona.
- Recognized as an Innovative Provider of Postsecondary Education in the Beating the Odds report.
- Received a Sloan Award for exemplary workplace practices by the Families and Work Institute and named “Great College to Work For” by the *Chronicle of Higher Education*.
- Earned Silver rating from the Sustainability Tracking Assessment and Reporting System.

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*Total sum not representative of combined student populations due to the number of students who take both credit and non-credit classes.

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2011-12 statistical data and demographic information provided by RSC’s Institutional Research department.
“Community colleges are the most accessible, flexible and affordable means of preparing today’s students for the jobs of tomorrow. Knowledge will help open the doors to a successful future and career. That is why it’s never been more important for individuals to pursue a higher education.”

Dr. Chris Bustamante, President

What We Do

Rio Salado empowers students by providing unique educational opportunities through:

- Adult Basic Education
- Corporate, Government and Industry Partnerships
- Dual Enrollment
- Incarcerated Re-entry
- Lifelong Learning
- Military and Veteran Opportunities
- Online Learning
- University Transfer

Rio Salado offers a variety of programs and courses to meet the unique needs of our diverse student body.

- 799 Classes Offered
- 110 Programs of Study
- 25 AAS Degrees
- 68 Certificates of Completion
- 10 Academic Degrees
- 7 Academic Certificates

Rio Salado partners with the community to provide customized education solutions.

- 40 Government and Business Partnerships
- 41 Dual Enrollment Partnerships

Student and Other Services

Rio Salado has been enhancing the learning experience for students and setting the standard for innovation in higher education since 1978. Rio Salado continually strives to provide excellent student services for continued student success.

- 24/7 Instructional Helpdesk
- 24/7 Technology Helpdesk
- Academic Advising
- Admissions
- Bookstore
- Career Counseling
- Disability Resources
- Financial Aid
- Library Services
- RioLounge Online
- Student Union
- Tutoring
- Veterans Affairs

Program Areas

- Accounting
- Addictions and Substance Use Disorders
- Adolescent Development
- Adult Development and Aging
- Advanced Computer Usage and Applications
- Child and Family Organizations Management and Administration
- Child and Family Professional Development
- Computer Technology
- Creative Writing
- Dental Assisting
- Dental Hygiene
- Dental Office Management
- Digital Design
- Early Childhood Administration and Management
- Early Learning and Development
- eLearning Design
- eLearning Design for K-12
- Family Child Care Management
- Family Life Education
- General Business
- Infant Toddler Development
- Language and Literary Culture of the USA
- Language Studies
- Law Enforcement Technology
- Military Leadership
- Networking: Design and System Support
- Organizational Management
- Paralegal
- Parent Education
- Programming
- Professional Addictions Counseling
- Public Administration
- Quality Customer Service
- Retail Management
- Smart Business Start-up
- Sustainability and Ecological Literacy
- Teacher Education
- Web Design: User Interface

*Academic Certificate
Who We Serve

Local, National and International Communities
Rio Salado College is dedicated to serving our local, national, and international communities through online learning and collaborative partnerships. During the 2011-12 academic year, Rio Salado served 67,273 students.

- Business and industry partnerships
- High school students
- Incarcerated persons
- International students
- Lifelong learners
- Local employees
- Military service members, veterans and families
- Non-traditional students
- Re-entry students
- Working adults with families

2011-2012 Annual Report

Student Headcount: 67,273*

- 56,031 Credit
- 9,795 Non-credit
- 1,605 Customized workforce training

Additional Facts

- 15,795 Full-time Student Equivalent (FTSE)
- 90% In-state students
- 61% Online students
- Rio Salado is the largest college in terms of FTSE and headcount for the Maricopa Community Colleges
- Responsible for more than 25% of the District’s headcount

Student Successes

- 4,041 Certificates of Completion
- 553 Associate Degrees
- 582 GED Recipients
- 16,537 Transfer Students (For a total of 212,886 credit hours to a public Arizona university)

Specialized Student Populations

- 9,795 Adult Basic Education
- 6,368 Dual Enrollment
- 6,563 For-credit occupational program
- 3,187 Incarcerated

Partnerships

- 40 Government and business partnerships
- 41 Partnering high schools (Dual Enrollment)

Human Resources

- 23 Faculty Chairs
- 1,544 Adjunct Faculty
- 484 Board Approved Employees
- 400** Part time employees

Student Demographics***

- Gender
  - Female: 60%
  - Male: 38%
  - Unknown: 1%
  - Other: 1%
  - Total: 100%

- Age
  - 19 & Under: 18%
  - 20-29: 41%
  - 30-39: 22%
  - 40-49: 12%
  - 50 & Over: 7%
  - Unknown: 0%
  - Total: 100%

- Ethnicity
  - American Indian/Alaskan Native: 2%
  - Asian or Pacific Islander: 4%
  - Black/African American: 13%
  - Hispanic/Latino: 15%
  - Native Hawaiian/Other Pacific Islander: 0%
  - Other/Not Specified: 9%
  - White: 57%
  - Total: 100%

***For credit students only.

Rio Salado College was named a “Military Friendly School” by G.I. Jobs magazine.

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*Total sum not representative of combined student populations due to the number of students who take both credit and non-credit classes.

**Estimate due to the nature of temporary part-time employment.
LOCATIONS
Rio Salado College is establishing new locations and improving existing facilities to better serve and expand its educational offerings to students and the community. For the most current information, visit www.riosalado.edu/locations.

Public and Community Service
Every year, Rio Salado provides more than educational opportunities. The college provides public services and participates in annual events and outreach programs that benefit the community.

- Owns and operates Sun Sounds of Arizona, a radio reading service for people who cannot see, hold or understand print due to a disability.
- Owns and operates 91.5 KJZZ and 89.5 KBAQ, accounting for a combined total of more than 450,000 weekly listeners.
- Participates in outreach programs such as Arizona Heart Walk, Latinos Who Serve, Be a Leader Foundation, KEZ 99.9 FM Excellence in Education, Valley of the Sun United Way efforts, and numerous other initiatives.

New Locations
- RSC Downtown

Future Locations
- RSC Thomas (Summer of 2012)
- KJZZ’s SPOT 127 Youth Media Center (Summer of 2012)
- Rio Salado College School of Dental Programs (Spring of 2013)
- Rio Salado College Southern (To open in 2013)
- Communiversity @ Queen Creek (To open in 2013)

This year the college prepared for and hosted a visit from the Higher Learning Commission, a member of the North Central Association of Colleges and Schools. Rio Salado College received notice that its accreditation from the Higher Learning Commission (HLC) has been reaffirmed for the next 10 years.

For additional information about the commission, go to: www.ncahlc.org or call 312-263-0456.