

HISTORY AND BACKGROUND

Estrella Mountain Community College is a nationally recognized leader within the Maricopa Community College District. A comprehensive institution of higher education, Estrella Mountain provides educational and workforce training opportunities for residents of western metropolitan Phoenix. Offering classes since 1990, the Avondale campus currently serves 7,300 students annually.



Since its inception, the college has been committed to developing a strong foundation of general education, forming close community and business partnerships, and providing a customer-driven approach to program development. This focus, along with unique strengths in strategic planning, campus design, public art and the integration of technology, have all contributed to Estrella Mountain's success.



EMCC offers quality instruction, personal attention and a wealth of support services that are designed to help students define and achieve their academic, career and personal goals. Outstanding faculty and staff who are committed to the college service strategy, "Your Success is Our Success," surround students.

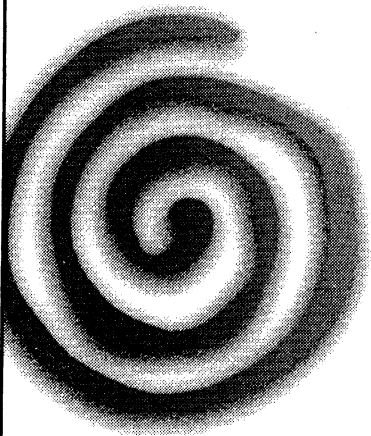


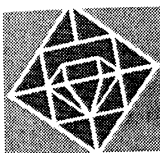
Estrella Mountain is designated as a Hispanic Serving Institution by the U.S. Department of Education, and provides students with a culturally rich learning environment. To date, the college has enriched the lives of thousands of students in both credit and noncredit learning environments, and continually addresses critical needs of the community it serves through a wide range of developmental programs. Cooperative partnerships with local high schools have resulted in programs like inspire.teach and Genesis West, which have increased educational opportunities for students and helped to provide a smooth transition to higher education.

The college has provided training to businesses, agencies and municipalities, and continues to play a major role in the economic development of the West Valley. Collaborative partnerships, such as those established through the college's Cisco Regional Networking Academy and Microsoft Certified Systems Engineer program, have ensured that community members have access to the latest high-tech training.

In addition to offering Associate in Arts (AA), Associate in Science (AS), Associate in Business (ABus), Associate in Applied Science (AAS) and Associate in General Studies (AGS) degrees, Estrella Mountain offers Associate in Transfer Partnership Degrees, in cooperation with Arizona State University Main and ASU West, in the areas of Business, Elementary Education, Psychology and Social Work. The college also offers the Arizona General Education Curriculum (AGEC), as well as certificates of completion in 13 occupational programs.

Estrella Mountain is accredited by the Higher Learning Commission of the North Central Association of Colleges and Schools.





FACILITIES

Estrella Mountain opened the doors of its Avondale campus in the fall of 1992. The campus, which is planned for five phases of development, has recently completed the first portion of its Phase II construction. These recent additions were made possible through citizen support of the 1994 Maricopa Community Colleges bond initiative. With these additions, the college's five buildings total 154,000 square feet.

The Estrella Mountain facilities are beautifully designed and enhance the student experience. The architecture has been recognized through the prestigious Arthur E. Mann Award of Excellence for Architecture. Also, the integration of public art on campus earned the college a first place Crescordia Award by the Valley Forward Association of Phoenix. Additionally, awards of recognition have been received for the college's integration of technology, as well as for its energy conserving cogeneration system.

Estrella Hall

Named for the Spanish word for star, Estrella Hall, at the center of campus, serves as the campus' communications hub. Included in the 54,500 square foot building are an integrated library and computing center with the capacity of more than 200 microcomputer stations, electronic classrooms, a learning enhancement center, community conference rooms, study rooms and administrative offices.

Montezuma Hall

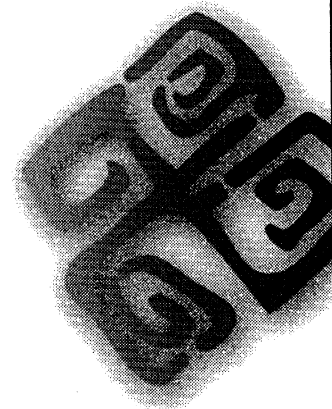
Montezuma Hall is named for the tallest mountain in the Sierra Estrellas. The building provides enhanced educational opportunities for Estrella Mountain's rapidly growing student population, housing classrooms; science laboratories; faculty offices; a Math and Writing Center; and an innovative Center for Teaching and Learning, a totally adaptable multimedia environment.

Komatke Hall

Komatke is the Native American term for the Estrella Mountains. Komatke Hall houses registration, academic advising, counseling, financial aid, veteran services, placement and GED testing, the cashier, the career center, food services, and campus security offices. A recent remodel encompasses a one-stop enrollment model, increasing the efficiency and ease of accessing all student services. This system received the 2001 Innovation of the Year Award from the League for Innovation in the Community College.

Fitness Center

The Fitness Center features new equipment and amenities, creating an ideal environment for getting in shape. Features include a free-weight training area,





the latest exercise equipment, a sprung-wood aerobics floor and outdoor exercise spaces. The center also features highly requested shower and locker room facilities, as well as high-tech additions like televisions, walkmans and computer stations.

SouthWest Skill Center

The SouthWest Skill Center is located immediately north of Estrella Mountain's Fitness Center. The SouthWest Skill Center provides occupational training to students throughout the West Valley and develops specialized training programs that address industry needs. The building houses training classrooms, computer labs, community resources for workforce development and the bookstore.

Physical Plant

Reflecting the college's concern with energy conservation and the environment, Estrella Mountain has a 290-kilowatt cogeneration system in place. This system saves approximately 30 percent in energy costs per year. Estrella Mountain received the 1993 International Association of Energy Engineers Energy Project of the Year Award for this cogeneration system, as well as for other energy conservation methods.

Planning for the second portion of Phase II expansion is currently underway, and construction is scheduled for completion in 2002. The expansion, located immediately west of Komatke Hall, will house the "One-Stop Service Center" and include space for a welcome counter, advisement/enrollment specialists, a self-directed center, registration, counseling, and financial aid services. Additional enhancements to Estrella Mountain's student life facilities will include an expanded food service facility, bookstore, student lounge, and the relocation of the campus security offices. Remodeling of the space in Komatke Hall vacated by the existing student service center will accommodate an administrative office complex, a production center, and division managers' offices. This construction completes Phase II of the campus, which was funded through the passage of the 1994 Maricopa Community College District bond initiative.

Estrella Mountain Community College is prepared to grow to serve 15,000 – 20,000 students and encompass 523,000 square feet. The pace of growth will be determined by service area need and community willingness to invest in additional phases of development for Estrella Mountain and other Maricopa Community Colleges. At least three additional construction phases will be required to bring Estrella Mountain to full build-out as a comprehensive community college facility, encompassing its entire 105-acre site.

