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EDUCATION

Dental hygiene students offer free dental services in Mesa



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MCC

Screenings are not comprehensive exams and treatment will not be provided during the event.

Posted Friday, January 22, 2021 4:24 pm

Mesa Community College dental hygiene students are seeking individuals for complimentary oral health screenings on Saturday, Feb. 6, at the Arizona School of Dentistry and Oral Health, 5855 E. Still Circle in Mesa. Appointments are available at 9 a.m., 11 a.m. and 1 p.m. and may be made by calling 480-248-8195.

Ideal screening candidates are individuals who have not received dental health care for three years or longer or who have been diagnosed with dental health issues, according to a release.

Screenings are not comprehensive exams and treatment will not be provided during the event. Although the screening is complimentary, those selected as patients for the program will be charged for the customized oral health care services provided.

Screening participants must agree to have a full set of x-rays taken. Copies of x-rays may be purchased for \$20 and picked up the following week during hygiene clinic hours: 5:30 to 8:30 p.m., Mondays through Thursdays.

“Dental hygiene students only progress in their education through the participation of community members through events such as this. The students’ clinical requirements state that care must be provided for individuals who have been diagnosed with periodontal (gum) disease and never had it treated, have been told they need a deep-scale cleaning, or have other dental hygiene issues such as puffy and bleeding gums,” Debi Sparks, director of the MCC dental hygiene program, said in the release.

Some patients will be invited to participate as patients in the MCC dental hygiene program receiving personalized fee-for-service care provided by MCC dental hygiene students. Students provide quality care using the latest technology in comfortable surroundings at fees less than most private dental practices. All patient care is provided under the supervision of licensed dental hygienists and supervising dentists, the release states.

The Mesa Community College Dental Hygiene Clinic provides a full range of dental hygiene services offered during convenient evening hours at the Arizona School of Dentistry and Oral Health Clinic. To schedule an appointment outside of this screening event, call the clinic at 480-248-8195.

Additional information about the MCC Dental Hygiene Program and the dental clinic is at [mesacc.edu/dental](https://www.mesacc.edu/dental) (<https://www.mesacc.edu/departments/applied-sciences-and-technology/dental-hygiene>).

The MCC dental hygiene program offers a rigorous and intensive science-orientated program and is accredited by the American Dental Association’s Commission on Dental Accreditation. Dental hygienists traditionally provide preventive and therapeutic oral health care to patients in a dentist- supervised work setting. Career opportunities are available in private dental offices and clinics, nursing homes, schools, post-secondary institutions, public health, research and in private business.

Students successfully completing the dental hygiene program at MCC will prepare individuals for the necessary licensure requirements and are eligible to take the written and clinical exams necessary to obtain licensure in any state in the U.S. MCC offers a dental hygiene clinic open to the public at the A.T. Still University Arizona School of Dentistry and Oral Health's "state-of-the-art" facility in Mesa. The clinic sees patients from late August through mid-May of each year. All patient clinical work is supervised by professional dental hygienists and supervising dentists. For more information, go to [mesacc.edu/programs/dental-hygiene](https://www.mesacc.edu/programs/dental-hygiene) (<https://www.mesacc.edu/programs/dental-hygiene>).

Mesa Community College has degree and certificate programs at its two campuses, additional locations and a combination of online formats. MCC is one of 10 colleges in the Maricopa County Community College District. Go to [mesacc.edu](https://www.mesacc.edu).

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Keywords

MCC (/search_mode/keyword/browse.html?search_filter=MCC), Mesa Community College (/search_mode/keyword/browse.html?search_filter=Mesa Community College), dental (/search_mode/keyword/browse.html?search_filter=dental), hygiene (/search_mode/keyword/browse.html?search_filter=hygiene), students (/search_mode/keyword/browse.html?search_filter=students)

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This is a challenging time, but we're here to help you get through this.

Tuesday, Jan. 26, 2021
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CLOSED
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CAPITOL

COVID issues loom in Legislature

Getting through the full session is first goal

By Madeline Arkley
Arizona news columnist

Arizona legislators have their work cut out for them as they enter their third week of a legislative session that comes on the heels of a tumultuous election cycle and in the midst of a worsening pandemic.

They're also playing catch-up. Last year's session ended early because of the Covid-19 outbreak, leaving many bills on the docket. Those old bills will be competing with a slew of new election-related bills introduced by the Republican-controlled House and Senate.

Many GOP legislators have made repeated claims of fraud in last November's elections, the results of which turned Arizona blue for the first time in 30 years.

Republican state senators, led by Senate President Karen Fann, R-Prescott, filed a lawsuit in December to compel Maricopa County to turn over ballots and other materials related to the presidential election for audit. As of last week, supervisors had agreed to turn over some data.

Predictably, the House is inundated with new election bills this session, including ones sponsored by Republicans that would eliminate the Permanent Early Voting List, create restrictions on early ballots and the creation of "official precinct registers," lists of voter's names, address, party preference-to-be compared against electronic election results.

Early voting, mail-in ballots and so-called "vipped" electronic vote tabulators are frequent targets of fraud claims — claims which have been debunked.

House Democrats, for their part, have introduced bills that would strengthen election integrity in also high on the list of priorities for Democrats, accusing some Republicans of voter suppression.

"What we've seen over the last several years is attempts to make it much more difficult for people to actually exercise their right to vote," Sen. Dilling said. "So we'll be fighting to defend democracy and expand ways that people exercise it."

How the legislature will fare as COVID issues spike Arizona is also a topic of concern.

When Sen. Fann introduced measures to mitigate the spread of COVID-19 by limiting masks inside, imposing social distancing of 6 feet and limiting in-person participation from the public, some Republicans vowed not to comply, including Sen. Kelly Townsend, R-Mesa.

Sen. Townsend told Capital Media Services in December she would not be wearing a mask at the Capitol.

"I've already told them where I stand," she said. "What are they going to do? Arrest me?"

This year, a separate swearing-in ceremony was held for lawmakers who would not don a mask.

Despite resistance from some in-law party members, Sen. Fann said she is hopeful that extra precautions will allow for a normal session.

"We're trying and hoping that we can have a regular full session with extra safeguards," she said, adding that she doesn't "want to take any chances" with regard to member and staff health.

"We have members and staff members that have brought new habits at home," Sen. Fann said. "We are just trying our best to get some work done and do it as safely as possible."

Republicans in the House are also optimistic their COVID measures will be enough to prevent another early adjournment. Speaker of the House Russell Benson, R-Mesa, "worked closely with members of both parties to assemble thoughtful safety guidelines," the new House Majority Leader Ben Terna said in a statement.

Some Democrats aren't convinced. Sen. Leta Stetter Botwin, D-Prescott, believes another adjourned session is likely.

"I think that there will be a lot of things that will be

MARICOPA COUNTY
Officials seek funding for more staff, equipment

By Mark Carlisle
Arizona news columnist

After an election that brought national attention to Maricopa County, county election officials are asking for \$5.5 million to pay for more staff and equipment to address a rapidly growing county population.

In addition to a growing electorate, the requested budget items are designed to address more people voting early or by mail rather than on Election Day, an earlier primary election date than in the past and the redistricting that will be necessary after population numbers from the 2020 Census are released, the heads of the elections and recorder's offices told the county Board of Supervisors Monday.

The board did not vote Monday on the items, which are for the 2022 fiscal year that begins in July. The amount is preliminary; the board considers it for the final budget, which will be adopted in June.

Board Chairman Jack Sellers gave indication he was open to approving the above-baseline budget requests, saying itemizing in elections is both necessary and can be fiscally better for the county than being in preparation.

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A 2.5-acre addition to Mekong Plaza will be discussed at the 3 p.m. study session and 4 p.m. Jan. 27 meeting of the Mesa Planning and Zoning Board. A site plan review and adding a bonus intensity ...

Fulton Homes sole builder notching 3 EPA Partner Awards in 1 year (</mesa-independent/stories/fulton-homes-sole-builder-notching-3-epa-partner-awards-in-1-year,209130>)

Industrial development to be discussed Jan. 27 by Mesa planning board (</mesa-independent/stories/industrial-development-to-be-discussed-jan-27-by-mesa-planning-board,209125>)

COVID-19 by the numbers: Information for you (</mesa-independent/stories/covid-19-information-to-keep-you-safe,148950>)

Scenic Arizona: Double rainbow in Apache Junction (</mesa-independent/stories/scenic-arizona-double-rainbow-in-apache-junction,208742>)

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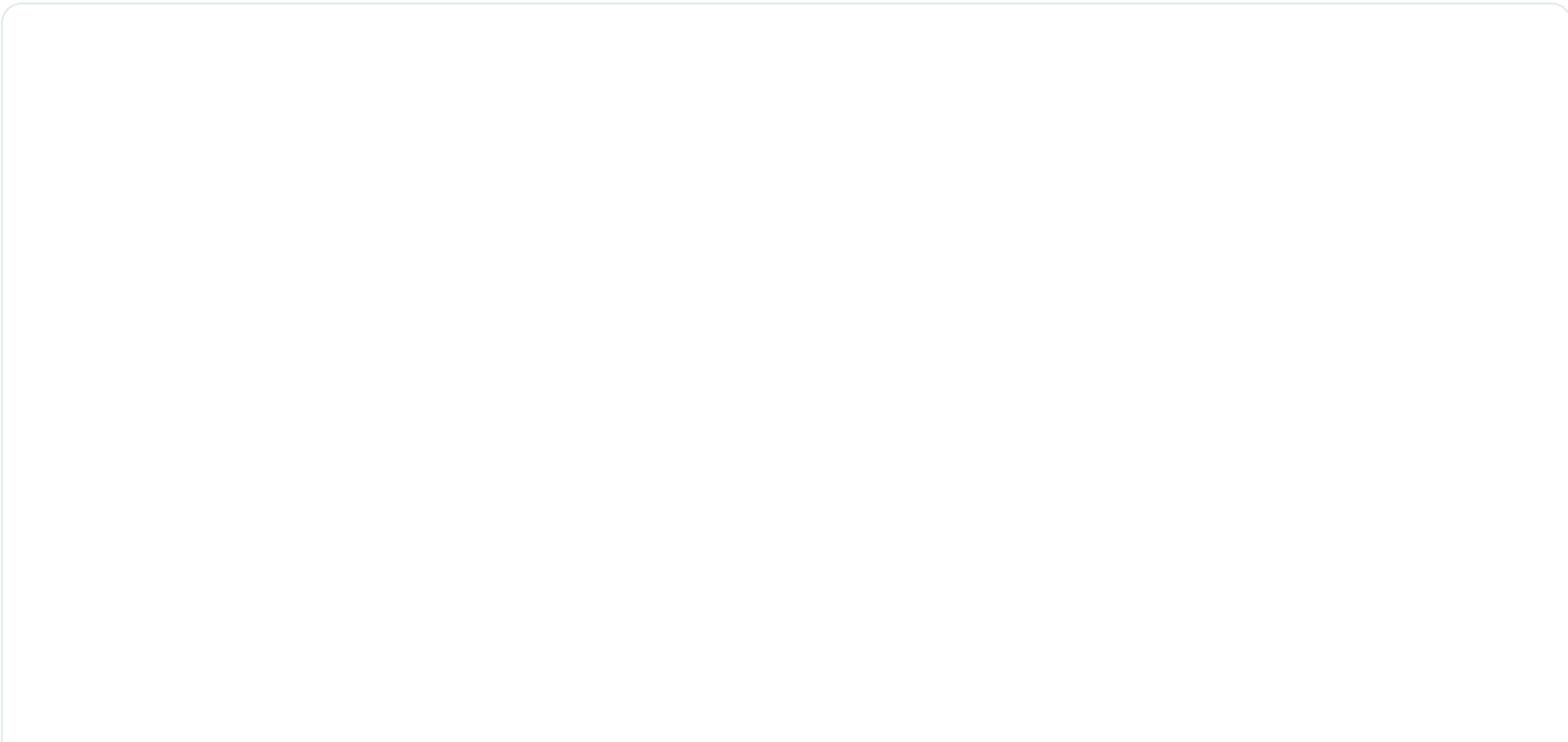
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