



Phoenix Digital Academy, part of the Phoenix Union High District, is a fully online high school available to all Arizona students in Grades 9-12. Phoenix Digital Academy students have access to an extensive course catalog, including honors, Advanced Placement (AP), dual enrollment, and world language courses. Every Phoenix Digital Academy class is self-paced and asynchronous on a quarter system. Phoenix Digital Academy offers students the opportunity to engage in their coursework not only anytime but anywhere, including at our fully renovated, newly refurbished campus. Phoenix Digital Academy also offers concurrent enrollment for all in-district students. At Phoenix Digital Academy, students can participate in interscholastic athletics through their home campus, and engage in extracurricular clubs and activities offered on-site or through their home campus. Phoenix Digital Academy first opened its virtual doors in August of the 2018-19 school year, expanding to a high of over 1,800 students by last Spring. Owing to its growing reputation for personal success, support, and safety, Phoenix Digital Academy has grown exponentially over the course of the past few years. The current school year enrollment is 1,101 students, with new enrollments quarterly. Due to the nature of the school, student enrollment is expected to increase substantially each quarter. Data from Spring 2022 is used in the profile as it most accurately represents our population.

### Vision

To provide educational equity by establishing Phoenix Digital Academy as a diverse and connected community that offers an exceptional

### Fast Facts

Grades	9-12
Student Enrollments of 2/9/2022	1858
Teaching Faculty	51
Support Staff	15
Student-Faculty Ratio	34.6:1
Average Class Size	35
Attendance Rate	100.0%
Four-Year Graduation Rate	29.59%*

\*Rationale of Grad Rate

### Key Contacts

#### Principal

Ms. Cortney Georgia - [cgeorgia@phoenixunion.org](mailto:cgeorgia@phoenixunion.org)

#### Assistant Principal:

Mr. Steve Kuipers – [kuipers@phoenixunion.org](mailto:kuipers@phoenixunion.org)

Ms. Gwen Lee – [glee2@phoenixunion.org](mailto:glee2@phoenixunion.org)

#### Counselors:

Ms. Abigail Dolin – [adolin@phoenixunion.org](mailto:adolin@phoenixunion.org)

Ms. Laura Islas-Brown – [islas-brown@phoenixunion.org](mailto:islas-brown@phoenixunion.org)

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### Ethnic Breakdown

Hispanic	77.5%
Black	9.7%
Anglo	5.3%
Native American	3.7%
Asian	1.2%
Other	2.6%

### Grading System

Grading is numerical; letter grade equivalents and grade points are as follows:

A = 100-90 (Excellent) = 4.0 grade points

B = 89-80 (Very Good) = 3.0 grade points

C = 79-70 (Satisfactory) = 2.0 grade points

D = 69-60 (Passing) = 1.0 grade points

F = Below 60 (Failing) = 0.0 grade points

NM = No Mark (grade) awarded when student has failed to complete coursework (beyond the final exam)  
 INC = All coursework completed with the exception of the final exam

AUD = Course audited and credit was not earned

Honors & AP marks are weighted 5 points for grade-point averages (GPA) and class rank.

Despite the fluctuation in enrollment over the course of the school year, all PXU schools that rank, do so at the end of each term.

### Graduation Requirements

English	4
Fine Art or CTE	1
Mathematics	4
Biology	1
Science Lab	2
Social Science	3
Health	.5
Electives	6.5
TOTAL	22 Credits
Civics exam	Passed

School Website: <https://www.pxu.org/phoenixdigitalacademy>



## Honors & AP

Sixteen Honors-level courses in English, math, social studies, science, and world languages are currently offered, as well as one AP class in Calculus, Statistics and US Government & Politics. These Honors/AP courses have been offered since September 2021 and are designated as such on the transcript. Note: Pre-approved high school subjects taken in the eighth grade may also receive elective credit.

## Dual Enrollment

Students may receive both high school and community college credit while enrolled in high school courses that are approved to offer dual enrollment credit. All courses are taught by PXU teachers who are community college certified. Some dual enrolled courses require that students take and pass a community college multiple measures pathway prior to enrolling.

## Notable:

Students in Grades 9 through 12 may enroll full-time or concurrently (simultaneously at Phoenix Digital Academy and their home school) at any point during the calendar year and begin coursework at the beginning of a new quarter term. Full time students may enroll in three credit-bearing courses every nine-weeks with an accelerated option of a fourth class which is open-entry/open-exit format. Phoenix Digital Academy provides all students with choices for academic pathways to success as well as serves at-risk students who need flexibility within the school day. At our peak enrollment of over 2000 for the 2021-2022 school year, approximately 20% of students represented concurrent enrollments. Based on the school's increased capacity more teachers and counselors were added. Phoenix Digital Academy counseling staff members work in concert with each student's home school counselor to register them for concurrent classes.

Phoenix Digital Academy is the only school in our district that allows high-achieving students to get ahead during the summer, as traditional summer school models offer students remediation through concept recovery and repeated coursework in core courses rather than acceleration. At Phoenix Digital Academy, students can challenge themselves during the school year and summer by taking honors coursework.

Since August of 2021, Phoenix Digital Academy has experienced explosive growth in students of all grade levels, shifting from primarily serving upperclassmen needing fewer than three credits to graduate, to becoming the primary destination for students who choose a virtual school experience. Phoenix Digital Academy has evolved from a single counselor in 2018 into a five-person dream team of veteran counselors juggling the highest senior loads in PXU. Phoenix Digital Academy now has more seniors than any school – comprehensive or small – in the district. Counseling professionals work hand-in-hand with local community-based organizations – primarily College Depot mentors -- to ensure individualized post-secondary guidance for each 12<sup>th</sup>-grader. They coach seniors through career pathways, assist with college applications, the Free Application for Federal Student Aid, scholarship essays and submissions, and progress on next steps in the college admissions process.

## Phoenix Union High School District

**Mission:** Preparing every student for success in college, career and life.

Phoenix Union High School District (PXU) is one of the largest and most progressive high school districts in the United States. With 22 schools, over 28,000 students, and nearly 4,000 employees, PXU covers 220-square miles of Arizona's capital city. If the K-8 students in its 13 elementary partner school districts were included, it would be among the 25 largest unified school districts in the country, with over 110,000 students.

## BIG CITY, SMALL SCHOOLS

The Phoenix Union High School District (PXU) is not a typical big-city school district. It is a portfolio of schools that can accommodate every student in a choice-rich educational environment. One size does not fit all. Of the 23 schools in the District, 11 are large, comprehensive campuses, eight are considered small specialty schools, three are micro-schools, and one is a digital academy. PXU is renowned for its menu of unique small schools that specialize in economy-driven areas such as biotechnology, coding, public safety, differentiated learning for gifted students, or college preparatory. PXU's Small Schools have no attendance boundaries, but first priority is given to students residing within the District boundaries. Because of their popularity, size, and specialized curriculum, the enrollment process and bell schedule are different for each one.