

# Career Profile for Urban Horticulture

**General Program Description:** The **Associate in Applied Science (AAS) in Urban Horticulture** prepares students to work as technicians, supervisors, managers, or owners in wholesale or retail nurseries, landscape design and construction operations, or landscape management companies. In addition, the program prepares students for careers with local, state, and federal government agencies involved with the technical phases of the Urban horticulture industry. The curriculum combines coursework in horticulture with General Education components. The optional **Certificates of Completion (CCL) in Landscape Aide and Landscape Specialist** provide a stepping path to the AAS degree.

**Advancement options:** Skilled nursery workers who have good communication skills may become supervisors. Those who have a talent for caring for a certain type of plant may advance to managing that department. Taking courses in horticulture may help nursery workers advance.

**Projected Job Growth:** Interest in gardening has grown in recent years and is expected to continue growing. In addition, the number of professional buildings, shopping malls, and homes needing new or updated landscaping should increase as well. As a result of these factors, more people will buy plants. However, the number of Nursery Workers hired will be slowed by the fact that nurseries make only a small profit off plants. The number of Landscaping Workers in Arizona is expected to grow 16.4% from 2006-2016, according the Arizona Department of Economic Security.

Location	Pay Period	Bureau of Labor Statistics - 2008 Salaries*		
		Entry-level	Median	Experienced
United States	Hourly	\$7.98	\$11.13	\$17.57
	Yearly	\$16,600	\$23,200	\$36,500
Greater Phoenix	Hourly	\$7.65	\$9.84	\$15.47
	Yearly	\$15,900	\$20,500	\$32,200
Arizona	Hourly	\$7.66	\$9.94	\$15.34
	Yearly	\$15,900	\$20,700	\$31,900

For more career information in Urban Horticulture, visit: [www.bls.gov/oco](http://www.bls.gov/oco), [www.maricopa.edu/workforce](http://www.maricopa.edu/workforce), <http://www.acinet.org/>, or [www.mesacc.edu/career/](http://www.mesacc.edu/career/)

For MCC program information, contact  
Suean Stewart,  
Program Director, or visit  
<http://www.mesacc.edu/dept/d58/ags>

\*Labor market information provided by AZ Dept of Economic Security in cooperation with the U.S. Dept of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics. Wages will vary depending on the employer, location, hours worked, experience, responsibility and other factors. Career and Re-Entry Services will collaborate with academic and occupational program departments to develop internship and career experience opportunities.

**Sample Job Titles:** Technicians, Supervisors, Managers, or Owners in wholesale or retail nurseries.

**Types of Employers:**

Retail Nurseries, Wholesale Nurseries, Municipalities

**Local Employers who posted related jobs on the *Maricopa Career***

**Network:** Gainey Ranch Community Association, City of Tempe, Superstition Mountain Golf and Country Club, Green Goddess Nursery

**Professional Associations**

*Future Farmers of America*

<http://www.ffa.org>

*For current job openings, go to*

*Maricopa Career Network*

<http://www.maricopa.edu/careers>

**Planet Professional Landcare Network**

<http://www.lawncarenetwork.org>

**Urban Horticulture Overview At-A-Glance**

- Work with a variety of trees, flowers, and shrubs
- Work alone most of the time
- Work outdoors or in greenhouses
- May work long hours (including weekends) during growing seasons
- Train on the job
- May need a license if working with pesticides  
[www.azcis.intocareers.org](http://www.azcis.intocareers.org)

**For additional information on Urban Horticulture careers or to watch occupational videos, visit:**

Arizona Career Information Systems (AzCIS)

[www.azcis.intocareers.org](http://www.azcis.intocareers.org)

User name: mesacc; Password: 4azcis02

Career Voyages

[www.careervoyages.gov](http://www.careervoyages.gov)

**Internships** are supervised practical training in a short-term or temporary position with an emphasis placed on instruction, training, mentoring, networking and gaining applied work experience. These positions may be paid or unpaid. Contact Career and Re-Entry Services for internship information: 480-461-7430.

Internship Completed: \_\_\_\_\_ Dates: \_\_\_\_\_ Location: \_\_\_\_\_

**Service-Learning** is a teaching and learning method that connects meaningful community service with academic learning through guided reflection. Contact the Center for Service- Learning for more information: 480-461-7393.

Service-Learning Completed: \_\_\_\_\_ Dates: \_\_\_\_\_ Location: \_\_\_\_\_

**Transfer Options:** Contact Transfer Services for more transfer information: 480-461-7452.

**Career Assessments Completed:**

<i>Career Assessment / Results</i>	<i>Date Completed</i>	<i>Reviewed by</i>

**Career Readiness Workshops / Activities Completed:**

<i>Workshop Name / Activity</i>	<i>Date Completed</i>	<i>Follow Up Contact (s)</i>
Resume Writing Workshop		
Resume completed and reviewed by:		
Participate in Mock Interview		
How To Prepare for a Career Fair		
Attend Career Fair / Job Expo Location:		
Joined Professional Association:		

**MCC Career and Re-Entry Services**  
*Providing Guidance for Career and Workplace Success*

For more Career Profiles, visit  
<http://www.meacc.edu/career/careerprofiles.html>

Meet with a Career Advisor in Bldg #36, Room SS5N - adjacent to the Kirk Student Center, 480-461-7430

