

Over 500 Students Earn High School Diploma During Career Training at Milan Institute

Milan Institute today announced that 500 students have now earned an accredited high school diploma while enrolled in career training at no additional cost.

LAS VEGAS, NV, UNITED STATES, August 31, 2026 /EINPresswire.com/ -- Milan Institute today announced that 500 students have now earned an accredited high school diploma while simultaneously training for a new career through its C4L program, offered at no additional cost.

The milestone reflects a simple belief: a person's starting point should not determine where they finish. Students in [Las Vegas](#) and Reno, Nevada, and [Houston](#), Texas — the program's three largest markets — make up the majority of C4L graduates, though the pathway is available across Milan Institute's campuses.

"At Milan Institute, we believe education should never be limited by where someone starts," said Tracy Williamson, Registrar at Milan Institute.

"Through C4L, students have the opportunity to earn their high school diploma while preparing for a meaningful career — proving that with the right support, it's never too late to achieve both."

Turning a Roadblock Into a Pathway

Enrollment at Milan Institute normally requires a high school diploma, GED, or equivalent credential, of which the school verifies that every diploma is valid and accredited. In practice, some diplomas can't be verified — often because the issuing school was online or private, or because its records are incomplete or unavailable.

Rather than turning those applicants away, Milan Institute routes them into the Eligible Career



Evelyn Arteaga Moran, recent high school graduate with Milan Institute

Pathway Program (ECP), which works alongside C4L. Students take the Ability-to-Benefit (ATB) exam and, once they pass, begin career training and high school coursework in parallel.

The process follows four steps:

1. Verification — Milan Institute reviews the applicant's diploma against accreditation standards.
2. Alternative pathway — If the credential can't be approved, the admissions team walks the student through ECP and next steps.
3. Dual enrollment — The student begins career training while completing high school coursework at the same time, with no added tuition for the diploma program.
4. Graduation — The student finishes with both a career training credential and an accredited high school diploma.

Strongest Growth in Las Vegas, Reno, and Houston

Demand has been highest in three metro areas: Las Vegas, where the program serves a fast-growing urban student population; Reno, where it opens career routes for local adults returning to school; and Houston, where it supports Texas students entering healthcare and beauty fields. Across all campuses, students receive advising and academic support through both halves of the program.

Melissa Martinez, campus director at Las Vegas and interim director at Houston, shared her excitement with the C4L programs. "Working in Las Vegas, Houston, and Bakersfield," Martinez said, "has allowed me to work with all walks of life. Our students have come to us from ages 18 to over 60 to both learn a trade and get their high school diploma at the same time."

"We're lucky to be a part of that journey," Martinez said.

Recent C4L graduate Evelyn Arteaga Moran, in Las Vegas, shared a personal perspective.

"I'll be receiving my high school diploma next month as a first-gen student," Moran said. "I couldn't have done it without all the support and opportunities I've been given. I especially want to thank Melissa for being such an important part of my journey and allowing me to be part of Milan."

"Being able to attend Milan while working towards my diploma has meant so much. It has given me the opportunity to grow, learn, and work toward a career that I'm truly passionate about."



Milan Institute Barbering student in California

Moran said. She is on track to complete her [nail technology](#) training in less than 6 months.

About Milan Institute

Milan Institute is a family-owned school system with campuses across the Western United States, including California, Nevada, New Mexico, and Texas, offering hands-on training in healthcare, beauty, business, and other career fields. To learn more about its career programs and no-cost high school completion pathway, visit milaninstitute.edu or contact a local admissions office.

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