

September 1, 1999

MEMORANDUM

To: Community College Presidents

From: Martin Lancaster, President
NC Community Colleges System Office

RE: PATHWAYS PROJECT

The North Carolina General Assembly approved and funded a Board of Governors initiative called PATHWAYS during its 1999 session. The PATHWAYS program is designed to increase the number of North Carolina students going to college. The program will be a joint effort of the North Carolina Community College System, the State Department of Public Instruction, the University of North Carolina System, and the North Carolina Independent Colleges and Universities.

PATHWAYS will provide early awareness and access to information and services needed to prepare North Carolina Students for higher education. PATHWAYS will serve over 500,000 students in grades 7-12, as well as parents, counselors and educators. PATHWAYS will include an interactive web-based site and an 800-Toll Free Service Hotline.

The Internet site for PATHWAYS will provide information, guidance, and online application services for every public university, private college and community college in the state. Students will be able to apply for financial aid including submission of the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA). The 800-Toll Free Hotline will help those without access to the Internet and will supplement the Internet site for additional questions and requests.

The Internet site will be operational by June 30, 2000 and fully functional for the 2000-2001 academic year. Kenneth Whitehurst, Director of Student Development Services, will represent the community college system and will work with Dr. Robert Kanoy, PATHWAYS Project Director, at the University of North Carolina General Administration. Also, the leadership team will include representatives from the public schools and the private colleges and universities.

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Please alert faculty and staff about the PATHWAYS program. During the next three (3) months, the project leaders will form design teams composed of high school counselors, higher education admissions and financial aid personnel, along with the web design company members. With your college=s participation, the PATHWAYS program will be customized to meet the needs of North Carolinians. I look forward to sharing more with you about the PATHWAYS program.

ML/mag

Attachment

c: Vice Presidents/Deans of Students
Directors of Financial Aid
Directors of Admissions

CC99-245