



**NORTH CAROLINA COMMUNITY COLLEGE SYSTEM**  
*H. Martin Lancaster, President*

September 14, 2000

**Respond by: September 29, 2000**

**MEMORANDUM**

**TO:** Vice President/Dean of Student Services

**FROM:** Ken Whitehurst  
Director, Student Development Services

**SUBJECT:** ASSET Testing in High Schools

As a means of accountability for federal Perkins funds, the State Department of Public Instruction (SDPI) is requiring that all high school senior vocational completers be given the scanner scored ASSET test. In a cooperative effort, it has been suggested that the area community colleges assist with this initiative because of their experience with ASSET. Last year a pilot program was initiated with eight community colleges and local school systems. This program was very successful and efforts are underway to establish a procedural booklet for both the high schools and the community colleges.

Essentially the college's responsibilities would be to:

- Assist with orientation and training sessions for test administrators.
- Work with area high schools to set up an optimal testing window.
- Score the answer sheets and return the information on a diskette to the schools (the area school system will be responsible for the cost and acquiring of the testing materials).

By volunteering to join this effort, the advantages to the colleges are establishing a cooperative relationship within the local educational community, and building an accessible database of potential community college students.

A tremendous amount of discussion has occurred regarding the testing of public school students in systems who are served by community colleges that do not use the scanner scored ASSET test. An August 28, 2000 memo from SDPI to Superintendents/Principals indicates "efforts are underway to accommodate the use of another placement test in the few locations where ASSET is not being used." Currently, SDPI may handle scoring of the answer sheets for these

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systems. However, the opportunity exists for these community colleges to (1) acquire the software needed to handle the scoring, (2) partner with a community college already using the software to score and provide copies of the results to you (concordance tables for correlating scores to CPT were developed by Aims Community College), or (3) obtain the scores from the State Department of Public Instruction for correlation using the concordance tables in # 2. If other options become available, I will send that information as soon as possible.

If you would like to participate in this cooperative program or would like more information, please respond via email to [whitehurstk@ncccs.cc.nc.us](mailto:whitehurstk@ncccs.cc.nc.us) by **September 29, 2000**. In your email, please indicate if you currently use ASSET and will score for your school system(s), or if you are a non-ASSET college and will pursue suggestions 2 or 3 above, or if you will be unable to assist (ASSET and non-ASSET colleges).

cc: Presidents  
Dr. Delores A. Parker

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