

**PHOTOCOPY
PRESERVATION**

Service-

work study

Dear President _____,

I want to commend you for all that you and your institution have done to inspire our nation's young people. And I want to urge you today, in the strongest terms possible, to continue that important work by increasing the portion of your Federal College Work Study resources that support community service.

As you may know, one of the original purposes of the Federal College Work Study program was to encourage college students to participate in service activities and to engender in students a sense of social responsibility. Over the years, that emphasis has been lost. I believe it is time to revive that spirit of service.

My Administration has substantially increased the level of federal support for Work Study, from \$617 million in 1993 to a proposed \$934 in the 2000 budget. Yet today only about 10 percent of such funds support service by students. Secretary Riley and I have also made it easier to direct work Study funds to community service by waiving matching requirements for literacy and math initiatives, and many college and university presidents have committed to the America Reads Challenge and America Counts Challenge. Much more, however, remains to be done.

I challenge you to embrace the goal of dedicating 50 percent of your Federal Work Study funds to support community service by the year 2002. Our prosperity and security give us the opportunity and the obligation to rally all Americans – and especially students – to the importance of citizen service. Now more than ever, the definition of a great educational institution must include not only the quality education it offers in the classroom but also the leadership it provides in the surrounding community.

I appreciate all that you have done already, and I look forward to your participation in this effort to strengthen our communities and empower our young people.

William J. Clinton