

DRAFT Public Service

Dear President _____,

As Chairman of America's Promise: The Alliance for Youth, I seek your further support in using the Federal College Work Study program to enable your students to serve in their communities.

Two years ago at the Presidents' Summit for America's Future all of the living President signed a document pledging to deliver the basic conditions for success to every young American. America's Promise is the crusade to mobilize communities, businesses, civic, religious and nonprofit organizations, education institutions, governments and individuals to provide to every youngster in this country:

- an ongoing relationship with a caring adult;
- a safe place with structured activities during nonschool hours;
- a healthy start;
- a marketable skill through effective education; and
- an opportunity to give back through community service.

Beyond providing quality education to their students, colleges and universities have a significant role to play in assuring that every young person can partake of the promise of America. One very substantial way you can contribute is by using the Federal College Work Study program to enable hundreds of thousands of college students to give back to the communities in which they study. By being tutors or mentors, college students can make a real difference in the lives of young children. There are thousands of nonprofit organizations, schools, and community organizations that are eager to put your students to service.

Institutions of higher learning are true leaders in helping young people to become citizens of the future. I join President Clinton in asking you to demonstrate that leadership even further by committing more of your work study assignments to community and to move toward having 50 percent of the Federal College Work Study funds supporting service by 2002.

Thank you.

Colin Powell

DRAFT

Draft Letter from the President to the Presidents of Colleges and Universities

I write to urge you in the strongest possible terms to increase the portion of your Federal College Work Study resources that support community service by your students.

As we move into the new century the definition of a great educational institution must include not only the quality education it provides its students, but the leadership and support it gives to the surrounding community. In that spirit, my Administration has initiated a variety of policies to expand access to higher education and to support colleges and universities.

Federal Work Study is a program in which federal support can at once help students pay for education and help colleges and universities make an impact in the community, in this case through the service of their students. As you may know, one of the original purposes of the Work Study program was to encourage college students to participate in community service activities to benefit the nation and engender in students a sense of social responsibility and commitment to community. Over the years the emphasis on community service of the Work Study program has been lost.

As you know, my Administration has substantially increased the level of federal support for Work Study. Since 1993, the federal investment in Work Study has increased from \$617 million to a proposed \$934 in the 200 budget. Federal Work Study slots will increase to one million under the proposed 2000 budget. Yet today only about 10 percent of the Federal College Work Study funds support service by students.

Colleges, universities, and proprietary schools receiving Work Study funds have the ability to increase the percentage being devoted to service in the community. Secretary Riley and I have made it easier to direct Work Study funds to community service by waving matching requirements for literacy and math initiatives, and many college and university presidents have committed to the America Reads Challenge and America Counts Challenge.

More remains to be done. Our prosperity and security give the unique opportunity and obligation to rally all Americans, and especially students, to the importance of citizen service. By refocusing the work study opportunities on community service, colleges and universities have an excellent vehicle for at once meeting pressing needs in communities and schools, and developing an ethic of citizenship and service among of its students.

I challenge you to embrace the goal of having fifty percent of your Federal Work Study funds supporting community service by 2002. I appreciate all that you have done. I know that you will join in this effort to use Federal Work Study funds to promote even greater service by your students in the community.

William J. Clinton