

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

THE CAROLINA COLLEGE ADVISING CORPS

- The University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill seeks a four-year, \$1.03 million grant from the Jack Kent Cooke Foundation to create the Carolina College Advising Corps. UNC-Chapel Hill will contribute \$695,000 in support of the program over the life of the grant.
- The program will place nine recent Carolina graduates in eighteen high schools, with the sole purpose of increasing college enrollment through admissions and financial-aid advising to students and their families.
- Beginning in August 2007, the Carolina College Advising Corps plans to partner with eight schools: Graham, Hugh M. Cummings, Ben L. Smith, James L. Dudley, Chatham Central, Jordan Matthews, Hillside, and Southern.
- Beginning in August 2008, the program tentatively plans to partner with an additional ten schools: Bertie, Northwest Halifax, Southeast Halifax, Weldon, Hertford County, Northampton West, Garinger, E.E. Waddell, West Mecklenburg, and West Charlotte.
- Corps advisers will spend two to three days per week in each of their two assigned high schools. Their work will supplement, not compete with, the work of guidance counselors already present in the schools.
- The program will provide training and full compensation for the advisers and a program director who will supervise their work. The director will regularly visit the eighteen partner schools, as will staff members from the Office of Undergraduate Admissions and the Office of Scholarships and Student Aid at UNC-Chapel Hill.
- The partner schools will be asked to provide office space, a computer with dedicated internet access, and an onsite mentor/supervisor.
- A similar program at the University of Virginia, also funded by the Jack Kent Cooke Foundation, has resulted in increases of 5 to 29 percentage points in college-going rates in its fourteen partner schools.
- The Carolina College Advising Corps aims to meet or exceed these increases. For the eighteen schools, a 10-point average increase above current college-going rates would yield an additional 1,280 students entering college over the term of the grant.

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