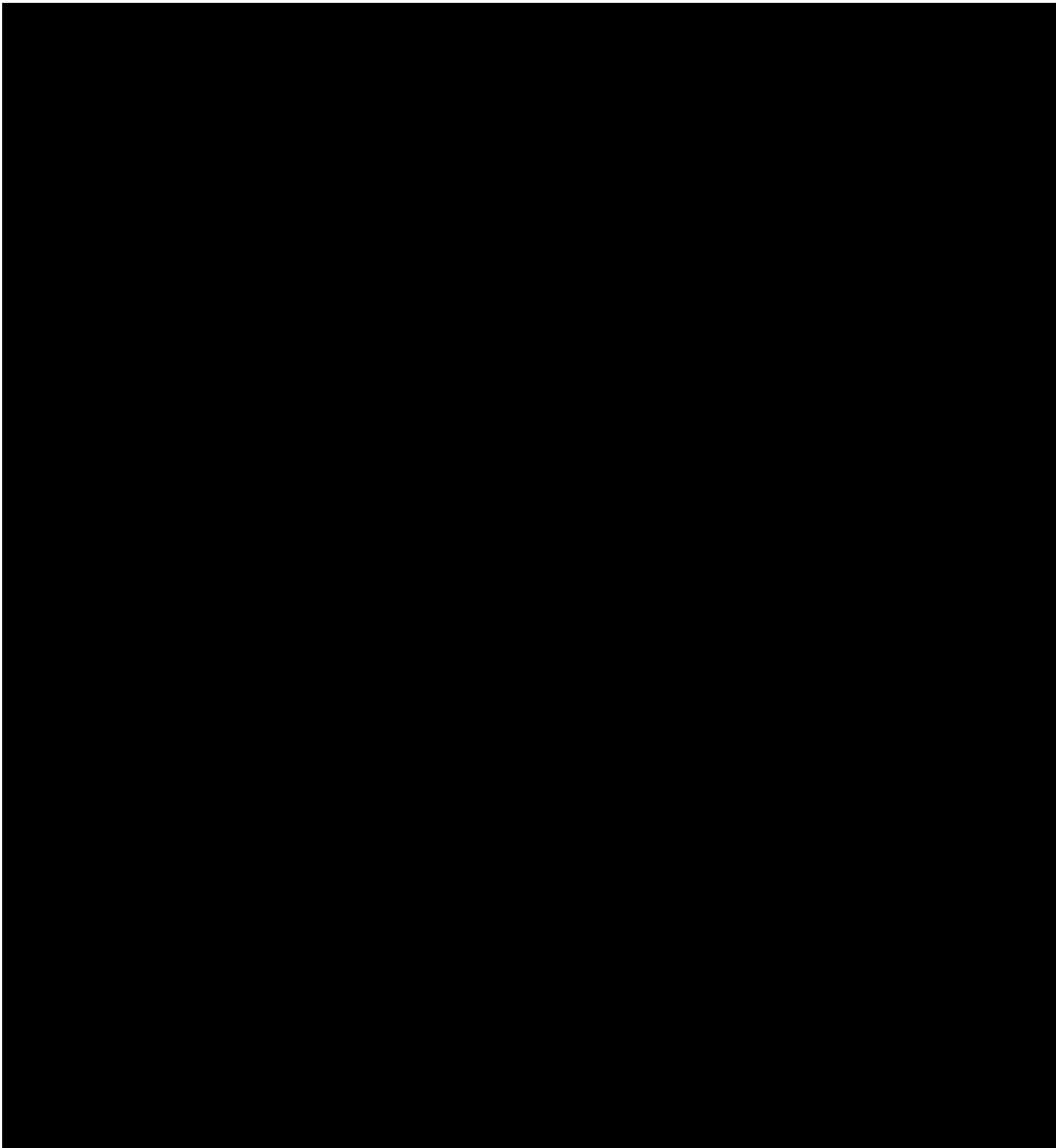


NC STATE UNIVERSITY



**pack
promise.**
committed to your success





We are making a **promise** that every student admitted to **NC State**, regardless of income, will have access to a quality education and become part of the **Pack.**

You've come so far and achieved so much. You studied, worked hard and made the grades. Yet there's still one barrier between you and your college education: the cost. Paying for college is no easy feat. In fact, students who have to borrow money to complete a bachelor's degree often graduate up to \$15,000 in debt. For those with the greatest financial need, Pack Promise is here to help you eliminate the barrier of cost standing between you and a college education.

At NC State, we believe getting a college degree doesn't mean you should get buried in debt. That's why we created Pack Promise, a program that helps the students who need it most. We are making a promise that every student admitted to NC State, regardless of income, will have access to a quality education and become part of the Pack.

But Pack Promise does more than put your college education within reach—it guarantees that NC State students, who qualify for Pack Promise, will receive an aid package that meets 100% of their demonstrated financial need. All you have to do is focus on what's most important: earning your degree and making a difference in your life — and the world.

PROFILE / BRITTANY ALSTON



With a degree in chemistry, Brittany Alston hopes to make a difference in the world—in ways like researching cures for diseases like malaria.

She's the kind of student any university would want to have on campus, yet if it weren't for NC State's Pack Promise program, she would have had to forgo a four-year degree. "I had major concerns about attending college before I heard about Pack Promise, because I lived in a single-parent home and did not know where the money would come from," Alston says.

The concerns were justified, even for a talented student who breezed through high school and made good grades almost effortlessly.

When it came time to make a decision about which college to attend, Alston focused on two main factors: proximity to home and affordability. NC State fit both requirements; the campus is

only a 45-minute drive from Alston's home, and her financial needs would be met thanks to the Pack Promise.

With NC State's stellar math and science program, Alston had found the right school to tap her talents. But even more important, she found a school that could give her—and her mother—the peace of mind that can only come from knowing serious questions have been answered. With help from the Pack Promise, Alston could finally focus on her studies instead of worrying about her next tuition bill.

"Pack Promise has provided that safety net of not having to worry about where the money is coming from and stressing out my single mother," In fact, not only did Alston have to worry about paying for college, she also had concerns about her mother's health. Since graduating from high

school, Alston watched her mother recover from two strokes.

"One of [my mother's] dreams was for me to go to college, but she did not know how that would be possible," Alston says. "With the aid of Pack Promise, it is. The program has been a blessing not only in my life, but in my family's life."

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is coming from.



**our promise fulfills
your mission.**



Just like all other NC State students, Pack Promise scholars are smart. They're high achievers with a passion for learning and an unwavering determination to succeed. The only difference is financial need. Incoming freshmen who have a family income at or below 150% of the federal poverty level with limited assets may be eligible.

For example, if you are part of a family of four with an annual income of less than \$31,000 — or you're the child of a single parent who earns no more than \$21,000 annually — you may qualify for Pack Promise. If so, 100% of your demonstrated financial need will be met.

And there's more good news: No matter your field of study, or even where you live, you can still benefit from the program. Pack Promise includes both in-state and out-of-state students; you'll find them enrolled in each of NC State's 10 colleges as well as participating in many of the more than 400 student organizations.

PROFILE / ANDREA ERTZ

What kind of effect can cold Iowa winters have on a promising high school student? In Andrea Ertz's case, they sent her 950 miles away from home to attend college in the South.

Of course, freezing temperatures weren't the only reason Ertz wanted to attend NC State. When she was a junior in high school, her cousin—who graduated from NC State in '07—showed her around campus.

"I absolutely loved it," Ertz says. "I grew up in a small city at a very small private school and I had felt the need to branch out and go somewhere completely different from what I was used to."

And thanks to a strong independent streak, the move wasn't too intimidating—although Ertz was leaving quite a legacy behind. In high school, she participated in several extra-curricular activities: student council, spirit club and the National Honor Society. She was also on the cheerleading and volleyball teams, and was her class Salutatorian.

Most students with Ertz's credentials wouldn't worry about whether they could attend college, but Ertz knew that out-of-state tuition might prevent her from attending her dream school.

"I knew for a fact that without financial aid I wouldn't be able to afford out-of-state tuition anywhere," she says. "I applied for many scholarships, but I still would have had to attend school in Iowa. Don't get me wrong—there are very good schools in Iowa, but my dream was to come to North Carolina."

Luckily, Pack Promise doesn't limit its prospects to in-state students only. Ertz qualified for the program and was soon on her way to school in the sunny South.

"Honestly, I could not have come to NC State without Pack Promise," she says. "There is no way I could afford almost \$30,000 for out-of-state tuition."

When Ertz began her freshman year, she wasn't sure what her major would be, so she entered NC State's First Year College (FYC) program. As an

FYC student, Ertz had the opportunity to explore several different academic options and career paths before choosing the one that interested her the most. So after a year in the program, what's the verdict? Biological sciences.

"I want to try to go to pharmacy school," she says. And, of course, it's possible thanks to Pack Promise. "I am so grateful for the program. It has given me the privilege of getting an amazing education at a wonderful school, and it made my dream come true of coming to North Carolina for college."

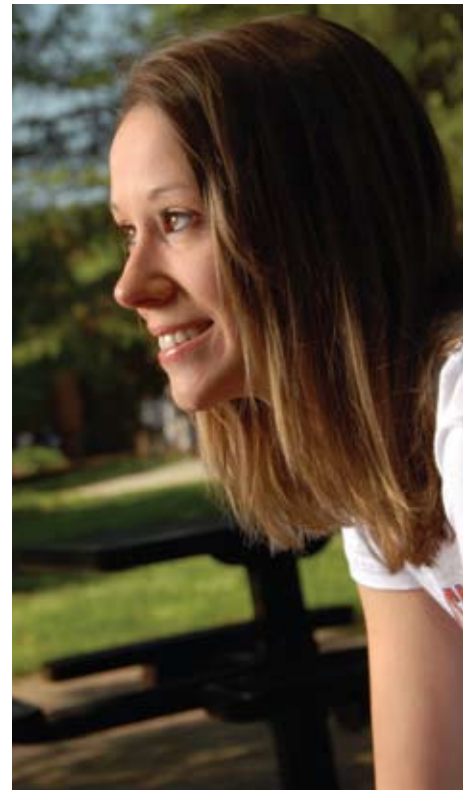
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who we are.



Pack Promise is more than our financial commitment to you—it’s also a commitment to help you succeed personally and academically. That’s why the Pack Promise program is more than just about money. It’s about putting you in contact with important resources and people. After all, we want to see you succeed in class — and in the real world.

To help ensure your success, you may be paired with an upper-class mentor—a student who’s been where you are and can help as you navigate your way through the university. And you will also be able to connect with an academic coach. Coaches are faculty and staff who meet with Pack Promise students throughout your first year to help you think through solutions to problems you may encounter on campus. College is a major life change, and an academic coach helps you recognize and adjust to the changes based on the way you learn and the way you connect with others. Workshops offered throughout the semester help you learn to manage your time, develop new academic strategies, organize your finances, and more.

Regardless of who you are or where you’re from, we’re here to help.

PROFILE / **TERRENCE VANDERHORST**



As a high school student in his hometown of Georgetown, South Carolina, Terrence Vanderhorst couldn’t wait to branch out and start his own life.

He knew he wanted to go to college—but he also realized it would be a tough road ahead since he’s the first person in his immediate family to do so. And just like many other first-generation college students, Vanderhorst had no idea how he would foot the bill for a four-year degree.

Then he heard about Pack Promise. “It’s really the only reason I was able to come to NC State,” he says. “In fact, if it wasn’t for the program I might not have gone to college at all—I probably would have gone into the military. Pack Promise really opened a lot of doors for me.”

When the letter announcing his acceptance

into Pack Promise arrived, Vanderhorst said he was surprised—and felt “very blessed.”

Then, of course, came the other big challenge: figuring out how to survive on his own at NC State. Even though Vanderhorst couldn’t wait to start his first semester as a college student, he also knew he had to find his way around a big campus—without the help of older siblings or parents who had done the same before him.

“I learned pretty fast that my responsibilities had changed,” he said. “I kept wishing I had someone who had gone before me who could help.”

Fortunately, Pack Promise services and support systems help new students transition to college life. Vanderhorst credits several faculty and staff members who advise Pack Promise Scholars for helping him learn the ropes.

“They’re some of the most helpful people I’ve ever known,” he says. “They really try to do a lot for you, and I appreciate everything they’ve helped me with—I know I can go to their offices and talk to them any time I need to.”

Vanderhorst is currently an aerospace engineering major, but he says he’s also considered a career in the medical field. Either way, the prospects for a promising career are good—and Vanderhorst is grateful for the opportunities he’s been given.

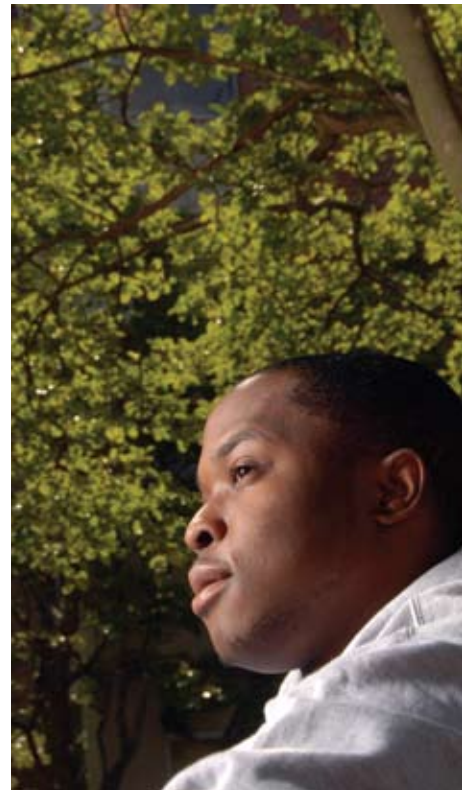
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**more than
just money.**



the process behind the promise.



How it works

Where does the money come from? Simply put, your financial aid requirements are met through a combination of scholarships, grants, federal work-study employment and need-based loans (not to exceed \$2,500 per year). Some of that money comes from generous donations by people who want you to succeed just like we do, and some comes from Federal and State resources. Pack Promise will assist you with 100% of your demonstrated financial need—all you have to do is work hard and dream big.

How to apply

There's no separate application you have to complete for Pack Promise. In fact, as long as you fill out the Free Application for Federal Student Aid before March 1 (FAFSA) and meet the income and asset requirements, our staff will contact you. NC State's Office of Scholarships and Financial Aid automatically identifies students who qualify for Pack Promise, and we'll notify you as soon as we've made a decision.

You can complete the FAFSA

online at fafsa.ed.gov.

Not a high school senior?

Not a problem. Go to

knowhow2go.org to get a

head start on the financial aid

process and to estimate your

eligibility for financial aid.

What's the catch?

There isn't one. You just need to register as a full time student and maintain satisfactory academic progress while you're in the program. Plus, you have to reapply for aid each year by submitting a FAFSA prior to March 1, our priority filing date. As long as you continue to meet the academic and income guidelines, your education is funded until you've completed your bachelor's degree—or for nine semesters, whichever comes first.

You've worked hard to get where you are. Let us help you get to where you are headed a little more easily.

Contact our office

For more information about NC State's Pack Promise, visit ncsu.edu/packpromise or contact:

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Box 7302

Raleigh, NC 27695-7302

phone: (919) 515-2421

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