

TO: College Community
FROM: Stephen M. Curtis
DATE: August 14, 2008
SUBJECT: My Degree Now

Late last week the College announced the start of a new program entitled, *My Degree Now*. This program is meant to respond directly to Mayor Michael Nutter's challenge to double the number of Philadelphians who have earned a college degree. The Mayor's goal stems from the low degree attainment level that exists within Philadelphia's population (the city ranks #92 out of the 100 largest U.S. cities).

While all of our educational programs and services support the goal of helping more Philadelphians attain a college degree, My Degree Now is meant to focus on a particular group of Philadelphia residents: those who began a higher education path at a college, including Community College of Philadelphia, or university, achieved some college credits, but then dropped out having never earned a degree. With the assistance of an anonymous donor, we are providing an incentive for those former students to return to college and complete their first credential, an associate degree at Community College of Philadelphia.

To be eligible for My Degree Now, students must have 30 transferable credits from an accredited institution, not be in default of an educational loan, and not have attended a college or university for at least two years. My Degree Now will provide a scholarship to cover the cost of tuition and fees not supported by financial aid. To maintain the scholarship, students must enroll in at least six credit hours of classes each fall and spring and maintain good academic standing.

The program is designed to help a full-time student complete the associate degree in a little over one year and a part-time student in a little over two years. Students will have up to three years to complete their degree with scholarship support.

My Degree Now is being administered through the Office of Admissions and information can be obtained through 215-751-8254 or at www.ccp.edu/site/mydegreenow.