*Letter from NC State Admissions Director -* ***New Application Procedures***

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| **North Carolina State University Office of Undergraduate Admissions**  |

 | Sep 3 |

Dear Patti,

We have received a number of questions concerning this year's changes to our application procedure.  I want to explain our expectations so that you can better assist your students as they prepare to apply to NC State University.

**Self-Reported Academic Record (SRAR) & transcripts**
Applicants will enter all of their courses into a Self-Reported Academic Record (SRAR) on their application.  It is helpful for applicants to have access to an unofficial transcript as they enter their coursework.   We also require applicants to scan and upload an unofficial copy of their high school transcript into their application.  This uploaded unofficial document will serve as a reference for the SRAR.  Most high schools give their seniors an unofficial copy of their high school transcript to verify that everything is listed correctly.    We do not expect the high school to scan a transcript.

We only require applicants to send us a final official transcript next summer if they are admitted and choose to enroll at NC State University.  We will be making admission decisions based on the information the applicant self-reports on their SRAR.

Many other universities are using similar processes for undergraduate applications (e.g.  Rutgers, the University of Illinois, the University of Washington, and the entire University of California system).  Many, if not most, graduate programs use a similar process including NC State's Graduate School.  These universities report very few applicants misreporting academic records when the universities verify final academic records prior to enrollment.

I know this is a big change for your students.  By putting the control for initial transcripts in the hands of applicants, our hope is that it will reduce the effort required of high schools to get transcripts to us to meet our application deadlines.  It will also assure the applicants that their transcript and coursework information are immediately matched with their application.  There have been cases of multiple transcripts being sent to our office either due to matching problems or due to the impatience of applicants and parents.  This should eliminate that frustrating problem.

**Recommendation Letters**
Recommendation letters have never carried much weight in our admissions process, and we have never required them except for the 2-year Agricultural Institute and Professional Golf Management program.  We do not encourage applicants to submit letters of recommendation, but many do submit them in large quantities.  We often receive a large number of recommendation letters for an individual student that adds little or nothing to the review of their application.  Until now, we have had to link these to the applicant's file and that has become a large burden for our process with little added value.  For these reasons, we have decided to only include in applications the unsolicited recommendation letters which are uploaded by the applicants directly to their application through wolfPAW.  Letters submitted via mail, e-mail, fax, etc. will not be added to the student’s application.

We will all have a learning curve this year as we adjust to this new process.  Your questions will help us make the process better.  Please email our office at
undergrad-admissions@ncsu.edu if you have any questions or issues.

Sincerely,
Thomas Griffin
Director of Undergraduate Admissions