

## **Chris O'Brien**

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**From:** Grant, Norman <ngrant@ccri.edu>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, July 8, 2020 11:39 AM  
**To:** Chris O'Brien  
**Subject:** Please Support Rhode Island Promise

I am an adjunct instructor at the Community College of Rhode Island and have been teaching at CCRI since 2003. I am writing to express my support for the Rhode Island Promise program.

For many years I have listened to students talk about needing to work two jobs in order to pay tuition and not being able to afford textbooks and other basic school supplies. I have also heard from students who have had to drop my class because a tuition bill is due, and they were unable to pay it. In fact, this happened again during the second session of the 2020 summer semester. A student who was enrolled in my communications course wrote to me a few weeks ago because she realized that she must drop the course due to lack of funds.

I have gotten to know some of the Promise students that have attended classes that I have taught. They are committed, self-motivated, and have demonstrated a strong work ethic. Promise has provided an educational opportunity for these students that was otherwise beyond their grasp financially.

I can think of nothing else that would be more beneficial to young Rhode Islanders than the Promise program. It has enabled students to develop talents and skills that result in better educated and productive citizens. It is good for our students and good for our state. For these reasons I believe that the Rhode Island Promise program should become a benefit to our students on a permanent basis.

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