

CAREER EDUCATION CORP  
Form 8-K  
October 22, 2003

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**UNITED STATES  
SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION**

**Washington, D.C. 20549**

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**FORM 8-K**

**CURRENT REPORT**

**Pursuant to Section 13 or 15(d) of  
The Securities Exchange Act of 1934**

Date of Report (Date of Earliest Event Reported): **October 21, 2003**

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**Career Education Corporation**

(Exact Name of Registrant as Specified in Charter)

**Delaware**  
(State or Other Jurisdiction  
of Incorporation)

**0-23245**  
(Commission  
File Number)

**36-3932190**  
(IRS Employer  
Identification No.)

**2895 Greenspoint Parkway, Suite 600, Hoffman Estates, IL**  
(Address of Principal Executive Offices)

**60195**  
(Zip Code)

Registrant's telephone number, including area code **(847) 781-3600**

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**Item 12. Results of Operations and Financial Condition.**

On October 21, 2003, Career Education Corporation (the "**Registrant**") issued a press release setting forth the Registrant's third-quarter 2003 financial results. A copy of the Registrant's press release is attached hereto as Exhibit 99.1 and the information contained therein is incorporated herein by reference. The information contained in this Form 8-K, including the exhibit, shall be deemed "filed" for purposes of Section 18 of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, and it shall be deemed incorporated by reference into the Registrant's Registration Statements on Form S-3 (File No. 333-103719) and Form S-8 (File Nos. 333-60335, 333-60339, 333-84403, 333-37848 and 333-96539).

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**SIGNATURES**

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Pursuant to the requirements of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, the Registrant has duly caused this report to be signed on its behalf by the undersigned hereunto duly authorized.

CAREER EDUCATION CORPORATION

By: /s/ PATRICK K. PESCH

Patrick K. Pesch  
Executive Vice President, Chief Financial  
Officer, Treasurer and Secretary

Dated: October 21, 2003

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### Exhibit Index

<b>Exhibit Number</b>	<b>Description of Exhibits</b>
99.1	Press Release of Registrant dated October 21, 2003.

### QuickLinks

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