

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE April 15, 2020

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## Students embrace Virtual College Signing Day videos; May 6 Facebook Event added Event celebrates graduates' commitment to life after high school

Montana high school students are embracing Montana's first Virtual College Signing Day with more than 70 video and photo submissions received in the first week after the event was announced.

The strong response has prompted the addition of a Facebook Event from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. on Wednesday, May 6. Graduate videos and prize drawings will be shared throughout the day and a live drawing for the grand prize – a \$500 scholarship – will be held at 7 p.m. A complete program schedule will be posted at <u>reachhighermontana.org/classof2020</u> two days prior to the event.

All Montana high school students, including those going out of state, are encouraged to submit their video by midnight on Wednesday, April 22. All will be eligible for the prize drawings. Watch video samples here

"This is the first time we've gone virtual with the Signing Day Event," said Kelly Creswell, Executive Director for Reach Higher Montana. "Our high school seniors have suffered some disappointments this spring so we wanted to give them an opportunity to celebrate their next steps – to be cheered on by their friends and family and peers, wherever they may be."

The event is a partnership of the Montana University System and <u>Reach Higher Montana</u>. Students are asked to submit a short video (or written bio and photo) describing their plans.

All students are encouraged to participate, whether they're planning on two-year college, fouryear college, a certificate program, an apprenticeship or another path to the future. Entries must be received by April 22.

"We didn't know what to expect and we're thrilled to see so many graduates embrace the idea of a virtual celebration," said Angela McLean, Director of K-12 partnerships at the Office of the Commissioner of Higher Education. "Based on the fantastic videos, photos and plans students are sharing with us, I'm confident that our future is in good hands with the Class of 2020."

For more details and guidelines on submitting a video, visit <a href="https://www.reachhighermontana.org/classof2020">https://www.reachhighermontana.org/classof2020</a>

What: Facebook Event: Virtual College Signing Day When: Wednesday, May 6, 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. A live grand prize scholarship drawing will be held at 7 p.m. Where: To learn more visit <u>https://www.reachhighermontana.org/classof2020</u>

ReachHigherMontana.org

Montana University System

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