



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

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Build Montana To Promote Construction Careers To Billings Area Students

HELENA, Montana – The Montana Contractors Association Education Foundation (MCAEF) is proud to announce the launch of its Build Montana workforce development initiative in partnership with Billings area high schools. Build Montana was created by the Montana Contractors Association, in conjunction with the MCAEF and the Montana Equipment Dealers Association, to promote career opportunities in the construction industry.

Build Montana will kick-off its inaugural class with the Billings school district on February 1, 2021 and the application process for students is now open. The Billings program is sponsored by the Montana Contractors Association Education Foundation, in partnership with RDO Equipment Co. and Knife River Corporation and will be focused on construction equipment and how it is used in construction. This program will explore machine theory, jobsite safety, maintenance, machine operation, site development and the incorporation of machine guidance technology and unmanned aerial vehicles (UAVs) in the construction process. Learning will be aided using manufacturer approved online learning, hands on machine walk arounds and site visits for firsthand observation. It is designed to build knowledge and understanding of the industry and careers available in Montana. Upon completion of the program, students will receive certification that can help qualify them for apprenticeship programs through construction employers.

There are no prerequisite experiences to participate in Build Montana. All Billings area high school juniors and seniors interested in participating in the Build Montana program are encouraged to apply. Students and their families interested in applying for the Build Montana program should apply at:

<https://recruiting2.ultipro.com/RDO1000RDO/JobBoard/b65401d2-4de5-4c2b-851f-556182926250/OpportunityDetail?opportunityId=584ee49c-55f2-4c67-b6b4-ff91d82afb2d>.

An Open House for interested students and their parents (with COVID safety procedures) will be held at the Billings RDO Equipment Co. location at 5221 Midland Road on Tuesday, January 19 and Wednesday, January 20 at 6:00pm. At this open house, we will discuss the program and the experiential learning plan for the internship.

*The **Montana Contractors Association**, a chapter of the Associated General Contractors of America (AGC), is a trade organization representing commercial, industrial and public works construction firms. The MCA Education Foundation, a 501(c)(3) designed to promote and support careers in construction, and help build a diverse, skilled workforce for Montana contractors. Learn more at www.mtagc.org, and www.build-montana.org.*