University of Idaho

College of Letters, Arts and Social Sciences

McClure Center for Public Policy Research

> GAR Building 714 W. State Street Boise, ID 83702

April 26, 2015

Dear Parent or Guardian,

Phone: 208-364-4549 mcclurecenter@uidaho.edu www.uidaho.edu/mcclurecenter

I'm writing to invite your high school senior to participate in a statewide study. This letter describes the purpose of the study, explains what is involved in participating, and asks for your permission to participate.

Purpose of the study

The purpose of the study is to learn what seniors are doing four months after they graduate from high school. The study also aims to understand what considerations influence students' decisions about life after graduation. Your student's high school is one of 30 across Idaho that have been randomly selected for the study. Results will be used by high schools, colleges and universities, and policy makers to support Idaho's students in achieving their goals for the future.

What's involved?

With your permission, your student is invited to provide contact information that we can use to reach him or her in mid-September. We know some students won't be reachable in the fall because they'll be on a mission or at basic training, for example, so we'll also ask what their plans are. In return for going online and providing this information, we'll email your student a \$10 Amazon gift card.

In mid-September, we'll send all students who gave us their contact information a link to a 10-minute online survey. We'll ask what they're doing – working, serving in the military, continuing school, or something else. We'll also ask a short series of questions about how they made their decision. In return for completing the survey, we'll email them a \$15 Amazon gift card.

This study has been approved by the Institutional Review Board at University of Idaho. Your student's participation in the study is entirely voluntary and all the information they provide will be kept strictly confidential.

Permission to participate

If you prefer that your student does <u>not</u> participate in the study, please opt him or her out by going online to bit.ly/idseniorparent by May 15, 2015, enter <u>2586</u> for login, and <u>FEGYMF</u> for password and follow the instructions on the screen.

If you have <u>any questions</u> or trouble completing this step online, please call 877-542-3019. If you <u>do</u> give permission for your student to participate, *you don't have to do anything*. He or she can go online by May 15, 2015, provide the information, and be contacted again in September.

Thank you in advance,

Gunil Jalant

Priscilla Salant, Director

McClure Center for Public Policy Research