



For Immediate Release

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**BridgeValley Community & Technical College
Commencement Scheduled Virtually for May 16**

South Charleston, W.Va - BridgeValley Community and Technical College (BridgeValley) will recognize 2019-2020 graduates during a virtual commencement ceremony on **Saturday, May 16 at 11:00 a.m.** Though the ceremony is being held virtually, it will still include elements of a traditional graduation ceremony to celebrate student accomplishments, including a welcome from the president, greetings from the board of governors chair and faculty senate chair, and conferring of degrees.

"While the format may be different, the significance and meaning that accompany this commencement are as important as ever," said Eunice Bellinger, BridgeValley Community & Technical College President. "As a college, state and country we have experienced a situation we had never imagined or been completely prepared to deal with. However, I am so very proud of how our students, faculty, staff and administration have come together to meet the challenges. We want the graduates to remember how they have been part of a successful response to a very difficult situation."

This year, 383 BridgeValley students will graduate. Of those students, 162 will graduate with honors. There were 411 total applications for graduation, and of those 366 students will receive their associate degree, and 45 certificates will be awarded.

Mayor Amy Shuler Goodwin will serve as the commencement speaker. Elected in 2018 as the first female Mayor of Charleston, West Virginia, Mayor Goodwin is a former Deputy Secretary of Commerce and Commissioner of Tourism for the State of West Virginia, and also served as Communications Director for several governors, a congressman, a presidential candidate and former Charleston Mayor, the late G. Kemp Melton.

BridgeValley's 2020 Spring Commencement Ceremony will take place virtually, and will be available for download. Streaming will be live on the college homepage <https://www.bridgevalley.edu> during the event.

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About BridgeValley Community and Technical College

BridgeValley Community and Technical College promotes student success, prepares a skilled workforce, and builds tomorrow's leaders by providing access to quality higher education. BridgeValley Community and Technical College will be the college of opportunity for a diverse learner population, offering leading-edge technology, innovative ideas, and dynamic service to our students and our communities. BridgeValley Community and Technical College serves a six-county region including Fayette, Raleigh, Nicholas, Clay, Putnam and Kanawha counties. The college operates two campuses in Montgomery and South Charleston, along with the addition of the new Advanced Technology Center. BridgeValley Community and Technical College is a public institution of higher education independently accredited by the Higher Learning Commission of the North Central Association of Schools and Colleges and a member of the Community and Technical College System of West Virginia.

For more information about BridgeValley Community and Technical College financial aid opportunities, programs of study, workforce training and community education and events, call (304) 205-6600 or; or check the College's website: <http://www.bridgevalley.edu>

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