



HIGHLAND HIGH SCHOOL ANNOUNCES ILLINOIS STATE SCHOLARS

Illinois Student Assistance Commission congratulates 20 Highland High School students for their exceptional academic achievement

Highland, IL – Highland High School is pleased to announce that 20 students from the graduating class of 2020 have been recognized as Illinois State Scholars.

The [Illinois Student Assistance Commission](#) (ISAC), the state agency committed to helping make college accessible and affordable for Illinois families, confers this prestigious recognition to top Illinois high school students annually. This year, more than 17,500 honorees join the other top students who have been honored for their academic achievements since the designation was first introduced in 1958.

“Our students continue to shine in so many ways and we are extremely proud of their efforts. They have worked so hard to reach the top of their class. We thank our students, teachers, parents, and community for their continued support,” said Dr. Chris Becker, Highland High School principal.

The 2020-21 Illinois State Scholars represent approximately the top ten percent of high school seniors from 726 high schools across the state. Illinois State Scholars are chosen based on a combination of exemplary ACT or SAT test scores and sixth semester class rank.

The following Highland High School seniors were named 2020-21 Illinois State Scholars: **Ethan Augustin, Lia Basden, Zachary Bluhm, Reagan Crask, Kamryn Daiber, Bree Etherton, Kaitlyn Feldmann, Taylor Fleming, Nicholas Hanratty, Olivia Jansen, Ashley Knackstedt, Nicole Knackstedt, Tess Korte, Jackson Marchal, Tristan Maslar, Alexander Reed, Connor Sands, Megan Vidmar, Tyler Werner, Trevor Zobrist**

“On behalf of ISAC, we congratulate the 2020-21 Illinois States Scholars,” said Eric Zarnikow, executive director of ISAC. “I’m consistently impressed with the passion, focus, organization, and dedication of our State Scholars. It is a credit to these students--as well as to their support systems and to our schools--that so many of them are not only driven to achieve but also reflect a true love of learning and a desire to use their education to make the world a better place.”

While the State Scholar recognition does not include a monetary prize, honorees will receive a congratulatory letter from ISAC and a personalized Certificate of Achievement. Honorees can also download a digital Illinois [State Scholar badge](#) that can be displayed on their online profiles and social media platforms, and shared with high school counselors, prospective colleges, employers, family members and others. A complete [list of the 2020-21 Illinois State Scholars](https://bit.ly/2Reh1IY) (<https://bit.ly/2Reh1IY>) can be found on ISAC’s website.



Seated (Left to Right): Tyler Werner, Zachary Bluhm, Connor Sands, Alexander Reed, Trevor Zobrist, Tristan Maslar, Nicholas Hanratty, Ethan Augustin, Jackson Marchal.

Standing (Left to Right): Lia Basden, Nicole Knackstedt, Kaitlyn Feldmann, Ashley Knackstedt, Reagan Crask, Megan Vidmar, Taylor Fleming, Olivia Jansen, Tess Korte, Bree Etherton, Kamryn Daiber.