Partnership Commitment

between

Region 5 Workforce Board, Inc.

and

Interlocal Association

and

Franklin Community School Corporation

WHEREAS, this Partnership Commitment, entered into between the **Region 5 Workforce Board, Inc.** and **Franklin Community School Corporation** and **Interlocal Association** outlines the elements of a partnership to successfully implement and sustain the JAG Program

WHEREAS, JAG-Indiana is financed using federal Workforce Investment and Opportunity Act (WIOA) funds, corporate and foundation contributions, and participating school funds and/or in-kind contributions. JAG-Indiana creates business, industry and education partnerships committed to achieve the mission of JAG to ensure that at-risk secondary school students remain in school, attain employability skills through classroom and work-based learning experiences during school, graduate and receive twelve (12) months of follow-up services by the JAG Specialist. In the follow-up period, JAG participants successfully transition into the next grade level, a career, and/or pursue a postsecondary education to enhance career entry and advancement.

WHEREAS, the six (6) primary performance goals of the JAG Program in serving students are results-oriented and measurable at the conclusion of the 12-month follow-up period:

- a 90% graduation/equivalent attainment rate;
- a 75% overall success rate at the end of twelve (12) months after graduation, with participants either employed, in the military, or enrolled in a postsecondary education or training, or a combination of the statuses full-time;
- 60% of graduates are employed;
- 60% of employed graduates are in full-time jobs (30 or more hours) leading to careers; and
- 35% are enrolled or completed further education, including all postsecondary, credential/certificate or apprenticeship programs (baseline)
- 95% of students are "connected" with JAG

WHEREAS, JAGForce provides tracking of students served, services delivered, and outcomes achieved. Statewide and school performance outcomes are used in JAG's National Accreditation Process. JAG State Affiliates and regional JAG Programs must receive standard accreditation to remain in good standing. It is understood that it may be the third year of operation before performance goals are achieved.

WHEREAS, the partners are totally committed to providing world-class school-to-career and/or dropout prevention programs, a process of continuous improvement will be implemented and maintained throughout the existence of the JAG accredited program.

WHEREAS, the partners are committed to ensuring that all relevant and applicable WIOA and other program rules are followed, including compliance with the nondiscrimination and equal opportunity provisions of WIOA and adherence to the EO/nondiscrimination principles outlined in 29 CFR § 38.25(a)(1)(i) and (ii).

WHEREAS, the responsibilities of the State Affiliate organization and JAG-Indiana are now being overseen by The **Southeast Indiana Workforce Investment Board, Inc.** (**"SEIWIB"**, a 501(c)(3) organization operating JAG-Indiana for the implementation and operation of the Jobs for America's Graduates "JAG" Program in Indiana for the 26-27 school year).

WHEREAS, JAG-Indiana/SEIWIB and JAG National responsibilities include:

1. Establish a JAG Program through a mutually beneficial partnership with **Interlocal Association**.
2. Serve as the primary point of contact between **Interlocal Association** and **JAG National** by communicating program information, disseminating curriculum and resources
3. Offer limited technical assistance, facilitating access to the JAG Indiana Learning Management System (LMS; Headrush), and connecting school staff and Interlocal Association with available state and national training, professional development, and other support opportunities.
4. Provide quarterly virtual Community of Practice sessions designed to promote collaboration, address implementation questions, and share resources and best practices.
5. Monitor JAGForce data to support program oversight, generate and distribute routine performance and data quality reports, and communicate identified reporting needs or discrepancies to Interlocal Association. SEIWIB will facilitate connections with JAG National staff for JAGForce and Headrush system access, training, and technical support, as SEIWIB does not provide direct administration or technical support for the JAGForce data management system or Headrush learning management system.
6. Provide monthly program performance reports summarizing enrollment, roster compliance, model service delivery, follow-up outcomes, and other available performance metrics.
7. Communicate program implementation concerns or areas requiring corrective action to **Interlocal Association** when the Specialist is not meeting JAG Program expectations or required performance standards.

WHEREAS, the responsibilities of the funder, **Region 5 Workforce Board, Inc.**, include:

1. Sponsor the local JAG program by targeting eligible participants for all contracted funding streams.
2. Subcontract the responsibility of implementing the JAG Program within each designated school. This entity will be known as the Service Provider.
3. Conduct periodic school visits and reviews to ensure the JAG model and appropriate funding stream rules/policies are being followed. Assist the JAG Program in its accreditation process to ensure conformity with the performance standards.

WHEREAS, the responsibilities of the Service Provider, **Interlocal Association**, include:

1. Provide a JAG Specialist who will follow the JAG model and deliver JAG curriculum to eligible students.
2. Develop a positive working relationship within local communities, including school administrators, employers, postsecondary or technical schools and community service organizations.
3. Ensure students are eligible for all contracted funding streams, including, but not limited to, Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA), as appropriate.
4. Complete eligibility paperwork/data entry for all contracted funding streams accurately and in a timely manner.

5. Comply with all applicable federal and state laws regarding student and participant privacy, including the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA), the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act (HIPAA), and the Indiana Department of Workforce Development's confidentiality and safeguarding requirements, including: DWD Policy 2021-10, Change 3 (Safeguarding Protected Information), DWD Memorandum 2020-15 (Confidentiality Statement Requirement), and DWD Policy 2023-05 (Maintaining Data Integrity in Workforce Programs).
6. Ensure JAG staff who will have direct, ongoing contact with students complete and pass required criminal background checks and Indiana Department of Child Services (DCS) checks.

WHEREAS, the responsibilities of **Franklin Community School Corporation and Franklin Community High School** include:

1. Allow access to the school by the JAG Specialist, including student records. The JAG Specialist takes personal responsibility for students with a goal of no less than **45 and no more than 65** (standard application) students who are most at-risk of leaving school before graduation and/or becoming unemployed or underemployed after graduation. The targeted students will be eligible to receive services under the aforementioned funding streams.
2. Provide the support necessary to make this program successful. Provide direct and in-kind contributions such as the use of appropriate classroom space, furnished office space, computer cart, computer with internet connectivity, projector, utilities, telephone, fax machine, printer, copier, video conferencing technology (such as Zoom), personal protective equipment, etc. if not provided by the service provider. **The school will provide Interlocal Association, DBA Region 5 Workforce Board, Inc. with $25,000 of funding to support the JAG program.**
3. Offer the JAG Model Program in a regularly scheduled class or classes for Indiana Department of Education credit, utilizing **course code 0509** and/or an approved Locally Created Pathway.
    a. For this JAG program, follow-up services will be provided to each graduate, including employer marketing, job development and placement services for twelve (12) months post-graduation. Non-graduates will receive follow-up services that will result in completion of requirements for a high school diploma or its equivalent certificate.
4. Establish an in-school Advisory Committee to assist the JAG Specialist in recruiting, screening and selecting students most in need of services delivered in all program model applications, as appropriate, and provide ongoing support for students and the JAG Program.
    a. At a minimum, the committee will include one representative from school administration, counseling staff, the faculty and the JAG Specialist. Ideally, a business representative or community partner would also be on the committee. The Advisory Committee and JAG Specialist are mutually responsible for recruiting, screening and selecting students who satisfy JAG eligibility criteria to receive the in-school and follow-up services of the program.
5. Provide scheduled time to assess students during the school year as well as cumulative records for the purpose of identifying, screening, selecting and enrolling qualified students in the JAG Model accredited program. Additionally, provide for the scheduling of students and adequate contact time.
6. Provide classroom space and virtual access for Specialist-led, competency-based instruction and appropriate facilities and technology for the student-led Career Association activities. The school will also provide the use of other school facilities, equipment and technology necessary to deliver the services of a JAG Model accredited program.
7. Provide for the coordination of the JAG Program and student-led Career Association with other school programs and services where appropriate.

8. Support the Specialist in providing students with work-based learning opportunities, employer engagement activities, postsecondary exploration experiences, and transportation assistance, when available
9. Support JAG-Indiana's efforts to involve parents, family, employers and the community to meet the needs of JAG-Indiana students that will keep them in school through graduation and ensure full cooperation and participation during the post-graduation follow-up period.
10. Work with **JAG-Indiana/SEIWIB** and **Interlocal Association** to provide real-time check-ins and performance evaluations of the Specialist and assistance to achieve full compliance with the JAG Program Model standards; Specialists are not employees of the school and therefore may have limits on additional duties as requested by the school. Performance concerns and additional duties requested by the school should be addressed in a timely manner by the Service Provider as appropriate.
11. Provide **mandatory** release time for the JAG Specialist to perform mandatory off campus or virtual employer marketing, job development, and placement responsibilities. The school will also sponsor substitute teachers and facilitate attendance at mandatory staff meetings, and JAG trainings (as appropriate and financially feasible); substitute teachers will also cover up to 5 sick days if applicable or allowable by the corporation during 2026-2027.
12. Make transportation available to the students to attend JAG related field trips and regional and state student conferences, if allowable by the corporation during 2026-2027.
13. Maintain active communication and collaboration with **Interlocal Association**, complete all required annual agreements and program documentation, and participate, when possible, in Community of Practice meetings and other collaborative learning opportunities provided by JAG Indiana/SEIWIB.
14. Provide adequate school-based supervision to ensure that the JAG Specialist fulfills the responsibilities of this Partnership Agreement and achieves the performance standards of the JAG Program Model and requirements of any funding sources.
15. Provide feedback to **Interlocal Association** that will result in the continuous improvement of the program to maintain accreditation by Jobs for America's Graduates.

PARTNERSHIP COMMITMENT

This Partnership Commitment is for the 2026-2027 school year.

The partners mutually agree that the JAG Model program will operate with the principles, policies, procedures and JAG standards as outlined in this document and agreed to by the participating school corporation, school, Service Provider, Workforce Development Board and JAG-Indiana/SEIWIB.

It is mutually agreed that efforts will be made to continue the JAG accredited program in subsequent school years based on:

- the availability of funding;
- an adequate and appropriate number of students to make the program cost-effective;
- attainment of JAG Model performance goals; and
- mutual satisfaction with the program based on this Partnership Commitment.

This Partnership Commitment may be dissolved, in whole or in part, by the local Workforce Development Board whenever, for any reason, the local Workforce Development Board determines that such termination is in its best interest. Termination of services shall be affected by delivery to the school corporation of a Termination Notice at least thirty (30) days prior to the termination effective date, specifying the extent to which performance of services under such termination becomes effective.

In support of the provisions of the Partnership Commitment, the partners affix their signatures in the spaces provided.

Franklin Community School Corporation

Dr. David Clendening, Superintendent — Date 10/20/26

David Yount, Board of School Trustee-Vice President — Date 10/19/2026

Interlocal Association

Jo DuMontelle, JAG Manager — Date 08/05/2026

Region 5 Workforce Board, Inc.

David Spears, Executive Director / Controller — Date