



Academics • Employability Skills • High School Graduation • Work-Based Learning • Postsecondary Education • Career

# Jobs for America's Graduates

A Special Briefing for

**Derby Public Schools**

April 18, 2016





# Jobs for America's Graduates— Delivering on: Graduation • Jobs • College Attainment

As we enter our 36<sup>th</sup> year of service, JAG is delighted that the one-millionth JAG student entered our program in the fall of 2014 .

JAG students make up the nation's **most challenged** youth across 34 states, and through the assistance of JAG, achieve high outcomes in three categories:

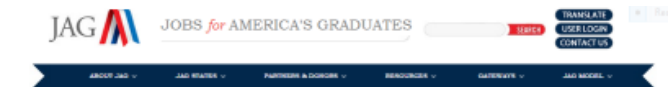
- **90%+ graduation rates** and **80%+ success rates** 12 months after graduation in securing jobs, college enrollment, or a combination.
- **Doubling** the rate of employment for this at-risk population and **tripling** the rate of full-time employment.
- **Boosting college access and completions** for high-risk populations – almost all first generation.

JAG seeks to serve students with an average of five identified barriers, to ensure JAG serves students of potential who will benefit from the program.



# Jobs for America's Graduates— History and Structure

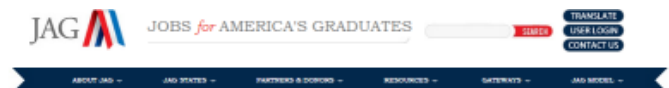
- ❑ JAG began in Delaware, and was scaled up to serve more students throughout the state and around the country.
- ❑ JAG is now a national program operated through state affiliates.
- ❑ Continuous improvement, clear data and accountability have always been central to the program.
- ❑ JAG National provides training, honors and recognizes success, and ensures compliance to model standards.



## About JAG



Jobs for America's Graduates (JAG) is a state-based national non-profit organization dedicated to preventing dropouts among young people who are most at-risk. In more than three decades of operation, JAG has delivered consistent, compelling results - helping nearly three-quarters of a million young people stay in school through graduation, pursue postsecondary education and secure quality entry-level jobs leading to career advancement opportunities.



## e-NDMS

### Login to E-NDMS

JAG Model Programs capture critical data and information using a unique tracking system - Electronic National Data Management Systems - referred to as e-NDMS. JAG State Organizations and local programs contribute to the national database to collect, report and analyze data. JAG is committed to tracking and documenting three categories of critical information:

- Students served
- Services delivered
- Outcomes achieved

The importance of a complete, accurate and timely database cannot be overstated. The national database (e-NDMS) provides valuable benefits in operating a state organization or a local program.

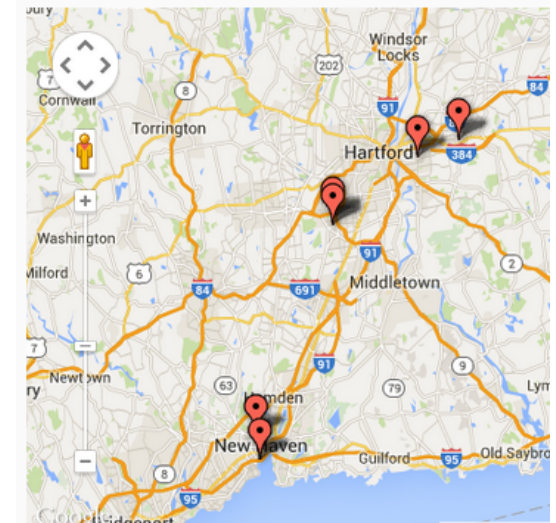




# JAG in Connecticut

- ✓ Launched in fall of 2014 as a program of the Hartford Consortium for Higher Education.
- ✓ Brought to Connecticut by Governor Malloy, led by Department of Labor, with support from SDE, DCF, DSS, DECD, CSSD, DOL and DOC
- ✓ Specialists now providing Senior Year model in high schools in **East Hartford, Hartford, Manchester, New Britain and New Haven** (also alt. model in New Britain and New Haven.)
- ✓ Electronic National Data Management System (eNDMS) tracking individual and cohort demographics, activities and outcomes. Ability to track activities and outcomes for numerous funders and interest groups.

## JAG CT Programs



*JAG CT in 2015 served 187 students and has exceeded JAG's goal of five barriers per student.*

*Of these, 127 are now in follow-up.*



# JAG in CT Schools

**JAG Specialists are HCHE employees, deployed in the schools,** serving seniors, each accountable for 35-45 students. JAG works closely with school staff and leadership to select Specialists and identify and support students.

## JAG Model Elements include:

- An elective credit course teaching professional or "soft skills," including leadership and self-development.
- Small class sizes
- Student-led Career Association: Project Based Learning via community service projects
- Personalized counseling and mentoring
- Individual assistance in identifying career and educational prospects
- Community outreach
- Job development and placement
- Twelve months of follow-up after graduation


Jun 9 **First Annual JAG Clothing Drive at NBHS is a Success**  
Category: Uncategorized By: Lauren Hebert | Leave a Comment



Students begin designing poster to advertise the first annual JAG clothing drive at New Britain High School


The New Britain High School chapter of JAG CT recently concluded a clothing drive that supported the Friendship Services Center of New Britain.

Jun 10 **Hillhouse Voter Registration Drive**  
Category: Uncategorized By: Dean Cornejo | Leave a Comment



NEW HAVEN – JAG students from Hillhouse worked numerous hours to plan and execute a voter registration drive for all upperclassmen that resulted in over 40 new registered voters. Students spent multiple days in the cafe during lunch waves encouraging their fellow classmates to register.

Jun 16 **JAG Class of 2015!**  
Category: Uncategorized By: Liz Dupont-Dohr | Leave a Comment



Congratulations to the JAG CT Class of 2015!

After a successful launch this January, JAG students are graduating this week, proudly wearing the red, white and blue honor chord signifying their successful participation in JAG.



# JAG in CT Schools, continued

- ✓ Began services in January of 2014
- ✓ Second cohort (first complete school year) now underway with full rosters.
- ✓ Hartford added in January 2015.
- ✓ **Statewide Career Development Conference, and each city's Initiation and Installation Ceremonies, are engaging business and community leaders with JAG CT students and with the JAG CT program.**

*JAG National allows three full years to reach goals. JAG CT is on track, attaining positive outcomes and building systems to attain even greater impact.*



| Enrollment by Grade JAG CT April 2016 |            |           |           |           |            |
|---------------------------------------|------------|-----------|-----------|-----------|------------|
|                                       | Grade 12   | 11        | 10        | 9         | TOTAL      |
| EHHS                                  | 29         | 11        |           |           | 40         |
| HPHS**                                | 1          | 3         | 4         | 8         | 16         |
| HH                                    | 40         |           |           |           | 40         |
| MHS                                   | 23         | 15        | 1         | 1         | 40         |
| NBHS                                  | 33         | 10        |           |           | 43         |
| SCA                                   | 6          | 32        | 4         |           | 42         |
| NH                                    | 4          | 7         | 7         | 1         | 19         |
| <b>TOTAL</b>                          | <b>136</b> | <b>78</b> | <b>16</b> | <b>10</b> | <b>240</b> |

*\*\*Launched in January 2016 as part of pilot alt. program within HPHS*





# JAG Corporate and Organizational Supporters





# JAG Model Program Applications

In addition to the Senior Year model now offered in Connecticut, JAG has others that can be introduced as needed:

**Middle School Program.** Helping 7th and 8th graders transition from middle school to high school. Array of JAG Model services to improve academic performance, school behavior, attendance, confidence, participation and self-esteem.

**Multi-Year Program.** Dropout prevention program serving students (9th to 12th grade) who display significant barriers to graduation or transitioning into post-secondary education or the labor market, including 12 months of post-graduation follow-up services.

**Senior Program.** School-to-work transition system for high school seniors most at risk of not completing high school or successfully transitioning into post-secondary education or the labor market, including 12 months of post-graduation follow-up services.





# JAG Model Program Applications

## *(continued)*

**Alternative Education.** Late-stage dropout prevention program serving students (9th to 12th grade) unable to succeed in traditional high school, who require support services to overcome academic, economic, family, and personal barriers.

**Out-of-School Program.** Dropout *recovery* program serving youth (16-24 years) who left the traditional school system and want to complete requirements for a high school diploma or attain a GED. JAG also assists them in securing a quality job leading to a career and/or enrollment in a post-secondary education program.

**College Success Program.** A collegiate-based dropout prevention program helping at-risk students in the 10<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> grades successfully complete their first year of college and ensure graduation with a degree, certificate, diploma, or transfer to another college.



# U.S. Chamber of Commerce Survey Findings

- A random sample survey of employers of JAG graduates were asked by the Chamber to rate their perceptions of JAG workers and the JAG program.
- To quote the Chamber: *“The results portray a highly successful program that enjoys considerable success and one that is valued among JAG employers. Both the JAG program and the worker consistently received high rankings throughout the survey.”*
- An overwhelming majority of supervisors (98%) are “Very Likely” or “Somewhat Likely” to employ other JAG graduates.
- Only 3% of the JAG workers did not meet supervisors’ expectations.



# JAG Board of Directors

☑ **Chaired by Governors** – Largest number of Governors to serve on any board other than National Governors Association. (See page 22, 2014 Annual Report.)

☑ **Previous JAG Board Members appointed to President Obama’s Cabinet:**

- Janet Napolitano, Secretary of Homeland Security
- Tom Vilsack, Secretary of Agriculture
- Arne Duncan, Secretary of Education

Napolitano & Vilsack both served as JAG Chairs when they were Governors.

☑ **Bipartisan Board**

- 5 Republican and 4 Democratic Governors serve on the JAG Board.

☑ **Senior Education Leaders**

- CEO of American Association of Colleges for Teacher Education
- State Superintendents of Alabama, South Dakota, and Washington State

☑ **Senior Business Leaders from:**

- |                       |                  |              |
|-----------------------|------------------|--------------|
| • ADM                 | • G.E.           | • McDonald’s |
| • Ally                | • HCA            | • Nike       |
| • AT&T                | • IBM            | • Shell      |
| • Business Roundtable | • JPMorgan Chase | • Verizon    |



# Five-Year Performance Outcomes

## JAG Classes of 2009-2013

*(Mature program goals, rounded to whole numbers)*

| <b>Outcomes</b>                 | <b>Goal</b> | <b>2009</b> | <b>2010</b> | <b>2011</b> | <b>2012</b> | <b>2013</b> |
|---------------------------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|
| <b>Graduation Rate</b>          | 90%         | 94%         | 93%         | 94%         | 92%         | 91%         |
| <b>Employment Rate</b>          | 60%         | 54%         | 54%         | 54%         | 55%         | 59%         |
| <b>Positive Outcomes Rate</b>   | 80%         | 81%         | 79%         | 78%         | 77%         | 79%         |
| <b>Full-time Jobs Rate</b>      | 60%         | 66%         | 67%         | 68%         | 70%         | 71%         |
| <b>Full-time Placement Rate</b> | 80%         | 88%         | 88%         | 89%         | 89%         | 90%         |
| <b>Further Education Rate</b>   | NA          | 48%         | 47%         | 45%         | 43%         | 43%         |



# JAG CT Opportunities for Community Engagement

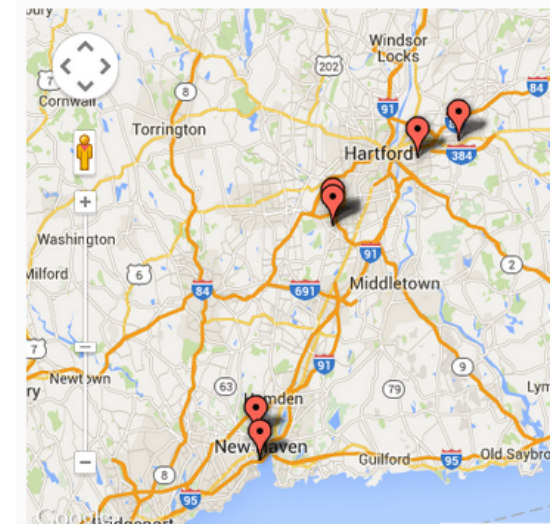
Each JAG Specialist seeks guest speakers to address:

- ✓ Financial literacy
- ✓ Career paths – a personal account
- ✓ Health and Wellness
- ✓ Technical opportunities and work experience

Other opportunities:

- ✓ Serve as judge or for student essay contests or public speaking events
- ✓ Mentor students
- ✓ Provide individual resume critique
- ✓ Host “Occupational field trips” to show students workplaces
- ✓ Serve as chaperones for field trips
- ✓ Sponsor JAG students to attend National Student Leadership Conference

## JAG CT Programs





## JAG CT students say....

- **“JAG activities helped me cope, accept others’ opinions, and changed the way I looked at some things.”**
- **“JAG helps me be positive towards everyone, including other employees and customers. At other jobs I had in the past I wasn’t as motivated to keep the job and to actually work. This time around, it is much different and I know it’s because of my experience in JAG.”**
- **“There is more to JAG than just being able to work. You can learn communication skills and how to work with others.”**
- **“My high school experience before the JAG program was basically a horrible blur. Before JAG, I didn’t care about going to any colleges or working or even completing school work... One day my mom asked me what changed my attitude. I told her that the JAG program made me more mature... It made me think about the future and how I want to live. “**
- **“It's changed my outlook on a lot of things like my future. [My JAG Specialist] is the reason why I chose to be a guidance counselor in [a] high school setting. She's such a good teacher.”**





# Jobs for America's Graduates, CT

*A Program of the Hartford  
Consortium for Higher Education*



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