Jobs for America’s Graduates-South Carolina (JAG-SC) is a dropout prevention program focused on academic success and career readiness skills. A dedicated career specialist in each of our affiliated schools functions as a teacher, coach, counselor and advocate for students with documented barriers to success. Over the course of their enrollment, students master 81 competencies identified by business as essential to successful employment. The program, launched in 2005, was originally piloted by the South Carolina State Workforce Investment Board and is now supported by the South Carolina Department of Employment and Workforce (SCDEW).

1. JAG-SC is entering its thirteenth year of service delivery at the original pilot high schools and has assisted over 11,000 youth in transitioning to postsecondary opportunities. The program currently serves approximately 1,000 active participants. Students, on average, are enrolled with seven documented barriers to success (e.g., teen parenting, excessive absenteeism, low income household, or substance abuse). Program outcomes have exceeded JAG National Standards for eight consecutive years.

2. JAG-SC has launched 2,623 seniors since the spring of 2009 with an average 96.57% Graduation Rate.

3. JAG-SC’s Return-to-School (Retention) Rate has consistently been greater than 96%.

4. JAG-SC experienced a 78% growth since its inception through public/private investments in new high school sites with plans to pursue further growth as funding opportunities become available.

5. JAG-SC currently works with twenty-two (22) school-affiliated sites, to include:

   **Pilot Sites originally funded by SWIB – now funded by SCDEW (14):**
   - Calhoun High (Calhoun County)
   - Creek Bridge High (Clarendon County)
   - Lake Marion High (Orangeburg County)
   - Manning High (Clarendon County)
   - McCormick High (McCormick County)
   - Rock Hill High (York County)
   - Timmonsville High (Florence County)
   - Chesnee High (Spartanburg County)
   - Darlington High (Darlington County)
   - Lancaster High (Lancaster County)
   - Marion High (Marion County)
   - Mullins High School (Marion County)*
   - Swansea High (Lexington County)
   - Wade Hampton High (Hampton County)

   **Florence School District 1 - Matching Funds (3):**
   - South Florence High School (Florence County)
   - West Florence High School (Florence County)
   - Wilson High School (Florence County)

   **SC Department of Education– EEDA Funds (2):**
   - Belton Middle School (Anderson County)*
   - Honea Path Middle School (Anderson County)*

   **Colleton County School District (1):**
   - Colleton County High School (Colleton County)

   **Original AT&T Foundation Grant funded site (1):**
   - C.A. Johnson High School (Richland County)

   **United Way and Laurens School District 56 (1):**
   - Clinton High School (Laurens County)

6. In March 2018, the SWDB awarded two grants to pilot two Out-of-School Programs located at the SC Vocational Rehabilitation Department in the Midlands and at the Trident Literacy Association in North Charleston. This model is designed to help individuals that have left school prior to obtaining their diploma by assisting them with school completion and successful postsecondary school or employment placement.

For additional information, contact Elaine Midkiff, JAG-SC State Coordinator at 803.737.0214 or at emidkiff@dew.sc.gov.

*NOTE: 50% Funding Match by Florence School District One; 100% Funding from SCDE-EEDA Funds*