

Transforming Lives



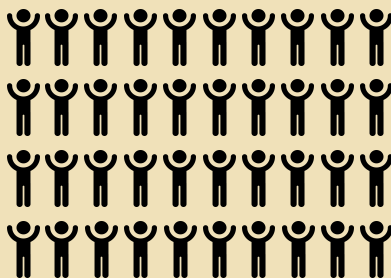
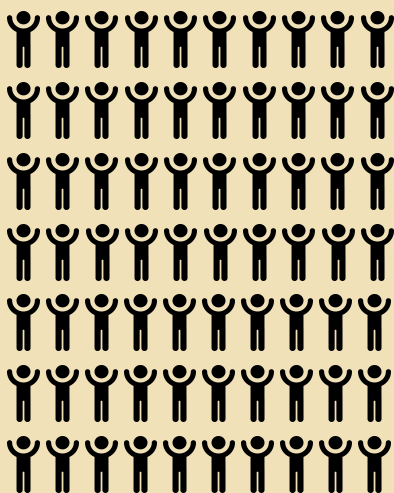
Career-Ready

July 2025

JAG NJ leaders arriving at
the state Career
Development Conference

2025 RESULTS SUMMARY

1,046 Total Students Served



736

**JAG NJ Students
2024-2025**

310

**JAG NJ Follow Up Students
2024-2025**

99.5% Graduation Rate

**Programs with 100%
Graduation Rate
Class of 2024**

- Barringer High School II
- Camden High School
- Carteret High School
- Central High School Newark
- Malcolm X Shabazz High School
- New Brunswick Alt. School
- Passaic High School
- Pinelands Regional High School
- Plainfield High School Cohort 2
- Vineland High School
- Weequahic High School #2

**Programs meeting or exceeding
program outcome standards
Class of 2024 Seniors**

- Barringer High School II
- Camden High School
- East Side High School (Camden)
- Malcolm X Shabazz High School
- New Brunswick Alt. School
- Passaic High School
- Pinelands Regional High School
- Plainfield High School Cohort 2
- Vineland High School

**2025 Scholarships & Grants
Secured by Seniors**

\$11,952,360

Career Ready

2

July 2025



JAG New Jersey Team Honored at National Training Seminar in Louisville



Jennifer Bogar-Richardson, 2025 JAG NJ Specialist of the Year

Louisville, KY – July 21, 2025 – The JAG New Jersey team received significant recognition at the Jobs for America's Graduates (JAG) National Training Seminar (NTS), which took place in Louisville, Kentucky, from July 14–18. This annual professional development conference convened JAG Specialists from across the national network for intensive training and collaboration.

A remarkable nine JAG New Jersey programs were awarded national recognition for meeting or exceeding rigorous performance standard outcomes for the class of 2024.* An additional three programs were recognized for meeting or exceeding rigorous standard outcomes for 2025 participants in grades 9–11.** This achievement highlighted the dedication and effectiveness of the specialists and their programs in preparing New Jersey's youth for successful futures.

Adding to the state's strong presence, Jennifer Bogar-Richardson, the New Jersey Specialist of the Year from Plainfield High School, led a workshop during the seminar. Her session addressed critical areas of the JAG model, including the JAG Advantage™, Project-Based Learning (PBL), Trauma-Informed Care/Instruction, and effective Employer Engagement strategies. Her presentation served as a valuable professional development opportunity for her peers from across the country.

The NTS provided an invaluable platform for JAG Specialists to enhance their skills, share best practices, and collaborate on innovative approaches to youth development. The recognition of nine New Jersey programs and Ms. Bogar-Richardson's leadership in professional development underscored the state's commitment to excellence within the national JAG network.

*JAG program outcome standards

'The 6 of 6'

Graduation Rate-90%

Employment Rate-60%

Full-Time Employment Rate-60%

Positive Outcomes-75%

Further Education Rate-35%

Connectivity Rate-95%

2025 RESULTS SUMMARY

JAG NJ Students 2024-2025

Programs meeting or exceeding
program outcome standards
Class of 2024
Non-Seniors Grades 9-11

- Plainfield High School Cohort 1
- Rahway High School
- Willingboro High School



****JAG program outcome standards for Non-Seniors
Grades 9-11
'The 5 of 5'**

High School Transition (8th Grade)/Matriculation to Next Grade (6th, 7th 10th & 11th) 90%

Improvement in Attendance Rate 70%

Academic Improvements 90%

Reduction of Discipline Referrals 60%

Reduction in One or More Indicators/Barriers by the end of the program year. 90%

Postsecondary Education & Training

Colleges, Universities, and Training Institutions

Class of 2025

Automotive Training Center
Berkeley College
Bloomfield College
Camden County College
Empire Beauty School
Essex County College
Fairleigh Dickinson University
Hudson County Community College
K&G Career Academy
Kean University
Lincoln Tech
Montclair University
Mount Saint Mary College
New Jersey City University
Pennco Tech
Princeton University
Rowan College of South Jersey
Rutgers University
Shore Beauty School
South Jersey Technical Training
Southern Connecticut University
St. Peter's University
Stockton University
Union County College
University of Delaware
William Paterson University



JAG New Jersey Specialists Receive High Performer Awards at National Training Seminar in Louisville



Rafeeza Shahabudeen
Malcolm X Shabazz High School
2025 High Performer Awardee



Leon Bunion
Rahway High School
2025 High Performer Awardee

Two outstanding Jobs for America's Graduates (JAG) New Jersey Specialists were recognized for their exceptional performance at the JAG National Training Seminar (NTS), which took place in Louisville, Kentucky, from July 14–18.

Rafeeza Shahabudeen, JAG NJ Specialist at Malcolm X Shabazz High School in Newark, and Leon Bunion, JAG NJ Specialist at Rahway High School, were honored for their extraordinary accomplishments. Their dedication led to significant successes for their JAG NJ cohorts, including securing crucial postsecondary opportunities for students, fostering impactful employer and community partnerships, and consistently meeting rigorous program outcome standards.

This national recognition underscored their unwavering commitment to empowering young people and preparing them for successful futures.

New Specialists Join the JAG NJ Network

We are thrilled to welcome our new JAG NJ Specialists to the team!



Tachel Winstead
Pinnacle Academy, Plainfield



Rachael Battiatia
Pleasantville High School

JAG New Jersey Leaders Tee Up for Impact at Deloitte Golf Outing

Deloitte.

Old Bridge, NJ – A select group of JAG New Jersey leaders recently traded their school attire for golf wear, joining the Deloitte Impact Day team for a refreshing golf outing at the picturesque Old Bridge Golf Club. The event brought together representatives from Rahway High School and Plainfield High School, fostering an atmosphere of fellowship and fun. More than just a day on the links, the outing served as a valuable opportunity for JAG New Jersey leaders to connect with Deloitte professionals in a relaxed setting. These informal interactions are crucial for strengthening community partnerships and exploring potential future collaborations that directly benefit students in JAG programs. The golf outing underscored the commitment of both JAG New Jersey and Deloitte to making a positive impact in the community, proving that even a day of friendly competition can lead to significant connections and shared goals.



Many thanks to the Deloitte Impact Day team!



JAG NJ Leaders receiving a putting lesson



Enjoying a brief tutoring session before the big swing



Getting ready for greetings and a warm welcome from the Deloitte Impact Day coordinators

JAG New Jersey Leaders Shine at Annual Career Development Conference Sponsored by AT&T



Ewing, NJ – The College of New Jersey once again played host to the annual JAG New Jersey Career Development Conference, a day dedicated to celebrating and honing the career-ready competencies of the state's most promising young leaders. Sponsored by **AT&T**, the event brought together JAG NJ Leaders from across the state to compete in 11 different events, all designed to showcase skills essential for success in today's workforce. The **Santander Bank** team facilitated the "Dollar Scholar" financial literacy event led by Toby Baba, Community Partnership Manager, Assistant Vice-President.

The air buzzed with excitement as students demonstrated their talents in various competitions, ranging from public speaking and critical thinking to teamwork and problem-solving. Each event was meticulously judged by a distinguished panel of representatives from JAG New Jersey's partnering companies and organizations, providing students with invaluable feedback and real-world exposure.

A Day of Inspiration and Recognition

The conference culminated in an inspiring awards presentation, recognizing the hard work and achievements of the JAG NJ Leaders. The esteemed Jackie Jackson, **AT&T** Customer Care Technology Enablement and Director of Retail Operations, delivered a powerful keynote address, motivating students to pursue their aspirations with passion and perseverance.

A highlight of the ceremony was the presentation of the Outstanding Service Award to Marlon Terrell, owner of **Chick-Fil-A** in Linden, NJ. Terrell was recognized for his unwavering commitment and significant contributions to the JAG New Jersey program, exemplifying the spirit of community partnership that is vital to the organization's success.

Further acknowledging student excellence, JAG NJ Leaders from each program proudly received the Chairwoman's Award. This prestigious recognition, the student-of-the-year honor, celebrates exceptional leadership and outstanding achievement throughout the academic year.

The conference also provided a platform for the New Jersey State Career Association officers to share their insights. These seasoned student leaders addressed their peers, offering valuable guidance and sharing personal experiences to inspire the next generation of JAG NJ leaders. Their words resonated deeply, underscoring the peer-to-peer mentorship that is a cornerstone of the JAG New Jersey program.

The JAG New Jersey Career Development Conference continues to be a pivotal event, empowering students with the skills, confidence, and connections they need to thrive in their future careers.



JAG Champions, Jackie Jackson, AT&T and Toby Baba, Santander Bank, giving remarks during the awards ceremony



2025 Outstanding Service Awardee
Marlon Terrell, Owner/Operator, Chick-Fil-A



JAG NJ Leaders are ready for competitive events

Shabazz High School's JAG Specialist Named Teacher of the Year

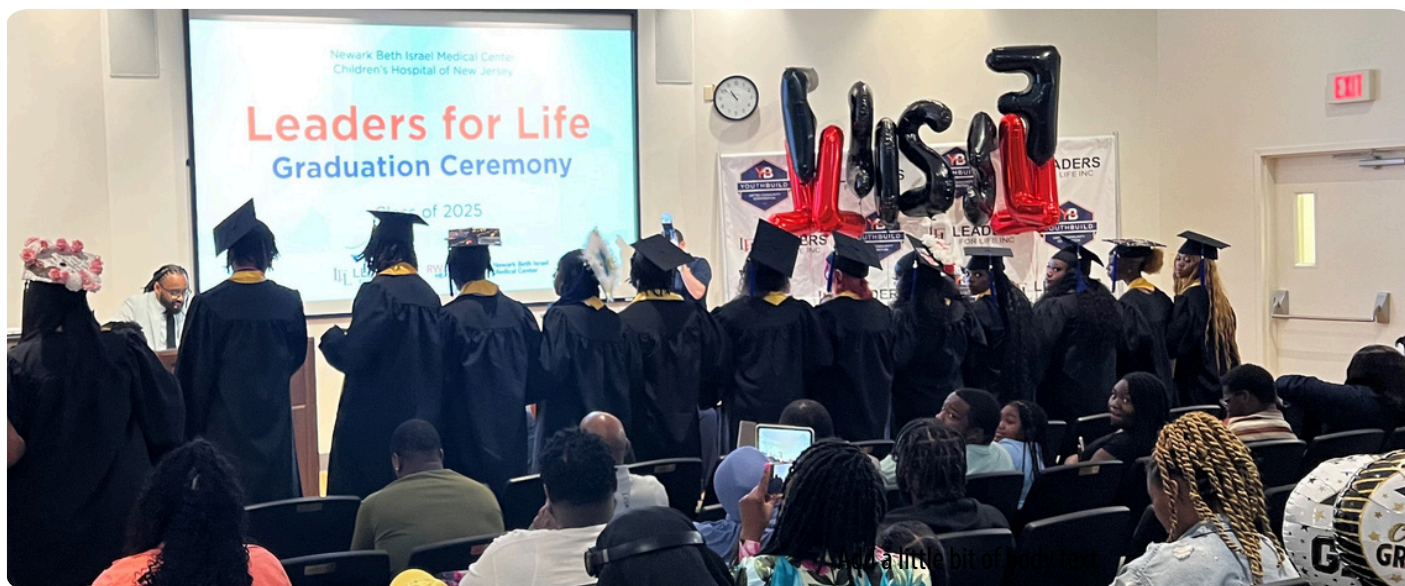
Newark, NJ – Malcolm X Shabazz High School and Newark Public Schools are proud to announce that their dedicated JAG Specialist, Rafezza Shahabudeen, has been selected as Teacher of the Year. This recognition highlights her extraordinary work and unwavering commitment to student success.

Through her role with Jobs for America's Graduates (JAG), she has consistently met and exceeded performance outcomes standards, earning her "high performer" status for two consecutive years. Her exceptional classroom leadership and genuine commitment provide students with invaluable opportunities for personal development, leadership skill-building, successful college admissions, and meaningful employment.

Thanks to her tireless efforts, Shabazz High School students are well-prepared for their futures, equipped with the skills and confidence to thrive. Congratulations!



Congratulations to the 2025 JAG New Jersey Graduates!



The JAG NJ graduation season began with the Leaders for Life Academy ceremony on June 20th at the Parsonnet Auditorium of the Newark Beth Israel Medical Center



Michelle Dabney



Valaida Doyle-Smith

Gratitude and Best Wishes

The NJCCF and JAG New Jersey teams extend their heartfelt thanks and appreciation to Michelle Dabney and Valaida Doyle-Smith for their exceptional service and unwavering commitment to the JAG NJ program. Their invaluable contributions will undoubtedly impact the lives of JAG NJ participants for years to come.

Gallery

2024-2025 Year At-A--Glance



JAG NJ Leadership Development Conference



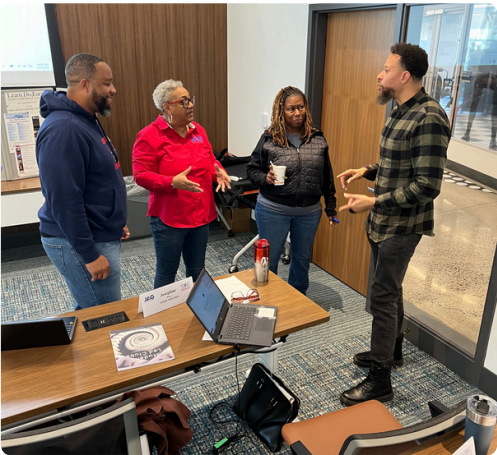
JAG National Career Development Conference
Indianapolis, Indiana



JAG NJ Legislative Day



Santander Bank Partners at the JAG NJ Career Development Conference



JAG NJ Team Training



National Student Leadership Academy, Washington, D.C.

Gallery

2025 JAG National Training Seminar



JAG NJ Specialist of the Year, Jennifer Bogar-Richardson, poses for the photographer



JAG NJ High Performers, Leon Bunion and Rafeeza Shahbudeen, presented with awards from the President and CEO of JAG, Janelle Duray



Team photo after Jennifer Bogar-Richardson's workshop #JAGNJPride



Team showcases NTS awards



Elizabeth Clark presented with JAG National Faculty award and recognition



Kenny Scott, '5 of 5' awardee, displays the '6 of 6' state team award