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| DATE: | November 9, 2020 |
| TO: | Division Superintendents |
| FROM: | James F. Lane, Ed.D., Superintendent of Public Instruction |
| SUPT’S EMAIL: | Jobs for Virginia Graduates Competitive Grant Award Application for School Year 2020-2021 (Second Semester Funding) |

In anticipation of the 2020 Special Session of the Virginia General Assembly increasing fiscal year 2021 funding for the Jobs for Virginia Graduates (JVG) program, pending the Governor’s signature on the budget, school divisions are encouraged to consider establishing or expanding JVG programs. The primary mission of the JVG program is to assist high school students who are at risk of dropping out of school or have other barriers to graduation and provides additional supports that enable these students to graduate and to secure and retain quality jobs. These funds must be used to expand services in existing JVG programs and to add additional JVG programs in local school divisions based on the Jobs for America's Graduates (JAG) national model. Applications may be submitted for a maximum of $30,000 per program.

Three programs—the senior-only model, the multiyear model for grades 9-12, and the middle school model for grades 7 and 8—may be offered independently or in combination. School divisions may use the grant funds to employ a job specialist who will work directly with the students who meet the program criteria. New local JVG specialists are required to participate in the annual Jobs for America’s Graduates National Training Seminar. The JVG model presently serves students in 16 school divisions across the Commonwealth of Virginia. The Department of Education serves as fiscal agent for these programs.

School divisions that are interested in submitting a JVG Competitive Grant Award Application must complete the attached application packet and submit two copies with original signatures. The JVG Competitive Grant Award Application packets must be received no later than 5 p.m. on December 15, 2020.

Application packets must be mailed or emailed to: David S. Eshelman, Director, Workforce Development and Initiatives, Office of Career, Technical, and Adult Education, Virginia Department of Education, P. O. Box 2120, Richmond, VA 23218- 2120. Email submissions must be sent to cte@doe.virginia.gov.

Inquiries pertaining to the JVG program should be directed to Antonio Rice, JVG President and CEO, at (434) 953-9291 or email antonio.rice@jobsforvagrads.org. Questions concerning the grant funding should be directed to Rachel Blanton, CTE

Senior Budget and Grants Manager, Career, Technical, and Adult Education, Virginia Department of Education, at (804) 225-3349 or by email at rachel.blanton@doe.virginia.gov.

JFL/GRW/aar

Attachment:

Jobs for Virginia Graduates (JVG) Competitive Grant Award Program Introduction and Application Packet

# Jobs for Virginia Graduates Competitive Grant Award Application

**Application Packet Due To**

**Office of Career, Technical, and Adult Education**

# By December 15, 2020

**Virginia Department of Education**

**P. O. Box 2120 Richmond, Virginia 23218**

## Virginia Department of Education

Office of Career, Technical, and Adult Education

## Jobs for Virginia Graduates (JVG) Competitive Grant Award Application

School Year 2020–2021 (Second Semester)

INTRODUCTION

The Jobs for Virginia Graduates (JVG) Competitive Grant Application packet is being disseminated to all school divisions for new grant applications to be awarded for SY 2020-2021 (July 1, 2020 through June 30, 2021).

Each grant award will be a maximum of $30,000. JVG grant awards are contingent on the availability of state funds. Priority will be given to funding at least 23 new JVG programs across the Commonwealth.

The JVG program is an affiliate of the national nonprofit public service corporation called “Jobs for America’s Graduates” (JAG).

The primary mission of this program is to assist youth who are disadvantaged and not achieving in school to complete high school as well as secure and retain quality jobs. The typical JVG participant has a grade point average of “C” or below. One out of five of these students has been expelled, suspended, or placed on academic/social probation prior to enrollment in the program. Almost one half of all JVG students are members of racial/ethnic minority groups.

The primary goals of the JVG program are as follows:

* Reach a 90 percent graduation/GED rate (within twelve months after the normal school leaving time);
* Reach an 80 percent overall success rate (with participants either on the job, in the military, or enrolled in postsecondary education or training) at the end of twelve months;
* Target those young people who are not only unlikely to complete school or get a job but who also possess the potential for high-risk behavior upon leaving school;
* Demonstrate the utility of the program for a potential statewide application that would serve not only to improve the graduation rates, reduce the dropout rates, and improve the employment rate, but also reduce the number of young people who become candidates for the juvenile justice system.

To achieve these goals, the school division must employ a job specialist who will work directly with 35-45 students who meet the program criteria. The job specialist will assist students in (1) completing high school, (2) gaining employability skills, and (3) securing employment.

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JVG PROGRAM REQUIREMENTS

Program Components:

Each JVG program must include:

1. Employment or assignment of a JVG specialist who will teach the JAG curriculum and coordinate job placements and who takes responsibility for working directly with young people who are at risk of becoming unemployed or not graduating
2. Attainment by students of a minimum of 37 competencies in career awareness, job seeking, job survival, basic academics, leadership development, and life skills development
3. Remediation and basic skills education for students, drawn from resources in the school or community
4. Participation by students in a highly motivational career association for the development of the participants’ self-esteem and confidence (activities to include job shadowing, participant organized career/leadership conference, job fairs, fund raising, and field trips outside the traditional setting)
5. Participation by students in a variety of learning formats, from small groups to tutoring, to facilitate improvement in reading, mathematics, and general academic skills
6. Assessment of students with pre- and post-testing in JAG-approved pre- employment/work-maturity competencies and basic reading and mathematics skills
7. Auxiliary services required to help young people overcome barriers to staying in school and getting good jobs
8. Intensive job development activities where the job specialist is responsible for persuading employers to accept JVG youth--at least on a trial basis--upon graduation or before
9. Twelve full months of follow-up by the job specialist after graduation to ensure that the participant’s job has career potential and to solve problems that may occur on the job, with the objective of gaining a raise or promotion for the individual within the nine month period
10. A minimum of 30 hours of contact during the second semester, per student, including competency instruction and career association activities and counseling to ensure retention and successful completion of the program

NOTE: JVG can be offered as a for-credit course at the discretion of the school division.

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Relationships and Responsibilities

1. Relationship of Comprehensive Program to School Administration

The JVG and the school division must recognize that this comprehensive program, modeled after JAG, operates as an independent program developed according to a nationally recognized model; however, the program cannot operate autonomously from the programs at school. For the success of the JVG program, there must be a collaborative, coordinated relationship within the school. The JVG recognizes that the job specialist will adhere to the rules and regulations of the school.

The job specialist will be apprised of the principal’s role of final determination in matters that relate to:

* 1. The daily operation of all school activities.
	2. The interaction of the job specialist with staff and students.
1. Joint Responsibilities
	1. Selection of Local JVG Specialist

The school division must employ a JVG specialist to be responsible for the management of the local program. The school division must notify the JVG President & CEO of the name, address, telephone number, and résumé of the present assigned to administer the program.

* 1. Public Relations Efforts

The JVG specialist shall notify the JVG President & CEO of any promotional activities that highlight the JVG program.

Participant Selection and Eligibility

All eligible JVG participants will be required to complete a student profile developed and provided by JAG to be considered for the program. The job specialist will determine eligibility and assist each youth in obtaining necessary documentation to complete his/her enrollment.

An advisory committee will be established within each school to assist the job specialist in the review and selection of participants as well as to provide ongoing support. The committee shall consist of one administrator, one counselor, one academic faculty member, and the job specialist. The committee may expand its membership to include community, private sector, and/or parent representation.

JAG Data Collection Requirements

1. JAG - The job specialist will be responsible for monthly reporting of data on students enrolled, student educational achievement, and student employment to the Program Manager of JVG, as required by the JAG.
2. Computer Requirements - School divisions must provide a personal computer and Internet access for the job specialist. The computer will be essential for the JAG data collection process.

"Grantees must submit to the JVG state office the $5,000 JVG/JAG affiliation and management fee. This fee covers monthly program management contacts and additional training/support during the grant period. The fee also covers JAG national affiliation fees, access to the JAG national curriculum models and the JAG Electronic National Data Management System (E- NDMS)." JVG specialists are required to attend two one-day regional training sessions during the school year. These training sessions may be provided virtually.

INSTRUCTIONS FOR SUBMITTING COMPETITIVE JVG GRANT AWARD APPLICATION

You must respond to each of the items in the amount of space provided in the blocks. Please do not go beyond the maximum space allowed by each block and do not submit appendices. You will need to be concise and specific in describing services to be provided, students to be served, how you will operate the program, and how you will use the funds.

Note that a budget summary sheet using the “object codes” and a budget worksheet with line items corresponding to the budget form, must be completed. The budget form and worksheet must reflect all funding sources: state funds from the Department of Education and local school division funds, with the use of each specified by line item.

For example, if the job specialist’s salary and fringe benefits are to be paid from all sources, the breakout should be clear on the worksheet.

A review committee will review your application and will be concerned with the completeness and quality, rather than quantity, of your application.

The application must be completed and submit two copies with original signatures. The JVG Competitive Grant Award Application packet **must be received no later than 5 p.m. on December 15, 2020**.

Application packet must be mailed or email to: David S. Eshelman, Director, Workforce Development and Initiatives, Office of Career, Technical, and Adult Education, Virginia Department of Education, P. O. Box 2120, Richmond, VA 23218-2120 or email applications to: cte@doe.virginia.gov.

School divisions may request technical assistance to facilitate the submission of grants. Contact Antonio Rice, JVG President & CEO, at (434) 953-9291 or via email at antonio.rice@jobsforvagrads.org or Barry Glenn, JVG Consultant, at (804) 513-1931 or via email at rbarryglenn@gmail.com to schedule these conference calls.

### SY 2020–2021 COMPETITIVE JVG GRANT AWARD APPLICATION

Grant Funding Period: January 4, 2021 to June 30, 2021 Grant applications must not exceed $30,000

School Division Name: School Division Number: Address:

City: State:

Zip Code:

Project Director’s Name:

Title: Address: Email:

Telephone Number: Fax Number:

School Division Fiscal Officer: Fiscal Officer Signature:

Date:

Division Superintendent or Designee Name: Signature:

Date:

### MEASURABLE OBJECTIVES AND PROCEDURES FOR IMPLEMENTATION (40 POINTS)

Describe the local JVG program objectives and procedures for promotion and implementation, including the number of students to be served.

### EVALUATION AND DATA COLLECTION (10 POINTS)

Briefly describe your evaluation and data collection plan.

### QUALIFICATIONS OF PROGRAM STAFF (10 POINTS)

Provide a brief description of the qualifications required of the individual who will serve as the JVG specialist.

### COLLABORATION WITH OTHER INITIATES (5 POINTS)

Describe collaboration planned with other school divisions, agencies, organizations, and businesses/industries.

### FACILITIES (5 POINTS)

Describe the facilities where the program will be housed.

### UNIQUE CHARACTERISTICS OF THE PROGRAM (10 POINTS)

Describe any unique or creative components of the program.

### BUDGET WORKSHEET (20 POINTS)

Develop a budget worksheet relevant to program objectives that includes line items under each broad expenditure account and corresponding object codes. The Budget Worksheet must reflect all funding sources: state funds from the Department of Education, optional local school division funds, and any in-kind funding.

### PROJECT BUDGET SUMMARY SHEET

School Division:

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| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Expenditure Account** | **State Funds** | **Local Funds\*** | **Total Budget** |
| 1000Personal Services |  |  |  |
| 2000Employee Benefits |  |  |  |
| 3000Purchased Services |  |  |  |
| 4000Internal Services |  |  |  |
| 5000Other Charges |  |  |  |
| 6000Materials & Supplies |  |  |  |
| 8000Capital Outlay/Equipment |  |  |  |
| TOTAL |  |  |  |

\*OPTIONAL

### EXPENDITURE ACCOUNTS DESCRIPTIONS

These accounts are for budgeting and recording expenditures of the educational agency for activities under its control. Below are definitions of the major expenditure categories. These descriptions provided are examples only. For further clarification on the proper expenditures of funds, contact your school division budget or finance office, the grant specialist in the Virginia Department of Education, or refer to the appropriate federal act.

Object Code Definitions

1000 PERSONAL SERVICES - All compensation for the direct labor of persons in the employment of the local government. Salaries and wages paid to employees for full- and part- time work, including overtime, shift differential and similar compensation. Also includes payments for time not worked, including sick leave, vacation, holidays, and other paid absences (jury duty, military pay, etc.), which are earned during the reporting period.

2000 EMPLOYEE BENEFITS - Job related benefits provided employees are part of their total compensation. Fringe benefits include the employer's portion of FICA, pensions, insurance (life, health, disability income, etc.), and employee allowances.

3000 PURCHASED/CONTRACTUAL SERVICES - Services acquired from outside sources (i.e., private vendors, public authorities, or other governmental entities). Purchase of the service is on a fee basis or fixed time contract basis. Payments for rentals and utilities are not included in this account description.

4000 INTERNAL SERVICES - Charges from an Internal Service Fund to other functions/activities/elements of the local government for the use of intragovernmental services, such as data processing, automotive/motor pool, central purchasing/central stores, print shop, and risk management.

5000 OTHER CHARGES - Includes expenditures that support the program, including utilities (maintenance and operation of plant), staff/administrative/consultant travel, travel (Staff/Administration), office phone charges, training, leases/rental, Indirect Cost, and Other.

Note: Indirect cost cannot be claimed against capital outlay and equipment.

6000 MATERIALS AND SUPPLIES - Includes articles and commodities that are consumed or materially altered when used and minor equipment that is not capitalized. This includes any equipment purchased under $5,000, unless the LEA has set a lower capitalization threshold.

Therefore, computer equipment under $5,000 would be reported in “materials and supplies.”

7000 PAYMENT TO JOINT OPERATIONS - For Annual School Report purposes only. (Not used in application budgets or request for reimbursements).

8000 CAPITAL OUTLAY - Outlays that result in the acquisition of or additions to capitalized assets. Capital Outlay does not include the purchase of equipment costing less than $5,000 unless the LEA has set a lower capitalization threshold.