FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
April 4, 2016

CONTACT: Communication
334-242-9950
comm@alsde.edu

JOBS FOR ALABAMA’S GRADUATES 2016 CHAMPIONSHIPS
“Hundreds of Students Competing for State Honors and Recognition”

Montgomery, Ala. – More than 600 Alabama students will be attending the 2016 Jobs for Alabama’s Graduates (JAG) State Career Development Conference at the Birmingham-Jefferson Convention Complex, on April 5.

Students will have an opportunity to attend rewarding career development and leadership workshops, and also participate in exciting state competitions. This year’s event keynote speaker is Charles Gordon, Chief of the City of Birmingham Fire and Rescue Service. Also Janet Parker, Executive Vice President of Corporate Human Resources for Regions Bank will bring greetings to students and parents attending this year’s conference.

Alabama’s JAG program is available in 23 school systems statewide and has experienced more than a 90 percent graduation rate and an 80 percent employment rate among students participating in its programs.

“Making a genuine investment in Alabama’s students is the most important responsibility we have,” said state JAG Program Manager, Mandy Nichols. “Our teachers really impact the lives of students – who are often those in danger of failing, dropping out, or becoming unemployed after leaving school. Some of the exciting competitive events students will be participating in during this year’s championship are the Alabama JAG Essay Contest, Employment Interview Competition, Public Speaking, JAG Bowl, and the prestigious Chairman’s Recognition Award.”

Alabama’s JAG program is affiliated with Jobs for America’s Graduates, the nation’s largest model for at-risk and disadvantaged young people who receive school-to-career program services. This organization manages programs nationally and supplies its model to over 28 states.

The following Alabama schools participate in the JAG program:

- Barbour County High School
- Bibb County Career Academy
- Blount County Career Tech Center
- Brantley High School
- Central High School
- Cherokee County Career Tech Center
- Etowah High School
- Fairfield High Preparatory School
- Greenville High School
2016 Alabama JAG Conference
April 5, 2016

- Hale County College and Career Academy
- Headland High School
- Highland Home High School
- Keith High School
- Lauderdale County High School
- Phil Campbell High School
- Phillips High School
- Red Level High School
- Russell County High School
- Southside High School
- Straughn High School
- Sumter County High School
- Tharptown High School
- Wilson High School

Alabama’s JAG students learn to conduct effective job searches, set long-term academic goals, manage time more efficiently, and practice good human relations skills with employers and co-workers. In addition to obtaining all of its national goals last year, more than 65 percent of Alabama’s JAG seniors went on to enroll in further education courses after graduation.

Some of the innovative components of Alabama’s JAG program model are:

- Classroom instruction in over 40 different employability and life skills
- Student mentoring, guidance, support, and tutorial assistance
- Student leadership development and postsecondary education placement services
- 12-month follow-up services for all students after graduation

To learn more about Alabama’s JAG program or any of the other opportunities offered by Alabama’s career and technical education (CTE) programs, contact JAG State Program Manager, Mandy Nichols, at (334) 353-1545 or visit www.jag.org.

###