



JOBS FOR MONTANA'S GRADUATES

A Department of Labor and Industry Program

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Jobs for America's Graduates Accreditation Coming in March

Jobs for America's Graduates (JAG) requires that all state affiliates go through the JAG accreditation process every 3 years; this year it's Montana's turn! The primary purpose of the accreditation process is to provide third-party feedback to state affiliates. As a third party, JAG will identify the extent to which the JAG model has been properly implemented and will provide a report highlighting the aspects of the JAG model the state is doing well while also suggesting improvements that can be made.

In March JMG's comprehensive site review will include evaluating the state JMG management team, an assessment of the National Data Management System (eNDMS), and on-site reviews of JMG school programs. The accreditation process is a peer process, therefore reviewers will be from other state programs.

While all schools will be a part of the database review, Drea Brown, State JMG Director, will notify school administrators and specialists if their program will also be participating in the on-site accreditation process. Sites will be chosen by proximity and ease of travel for site reviewers. However, since all schools should be prepared with appropriate JAG information, check to make sure you have the following completed:

- eNDMS Database: All student profiles, senior and 8th grade follow-ups, school/job placements, and model services should be entered in the database.
- Student files: Each student on your roster should have a paper file including their profile, Individual Development Plan, parent commitment form, and permission to use images form.

Jobs for Montana's Graduates is known nationally for its exemplary work in meeting the program's goals of keeping students in school and transitioning them into jobs, college, or the military. Let's show JAG once again the fantastic job Montana is doing!

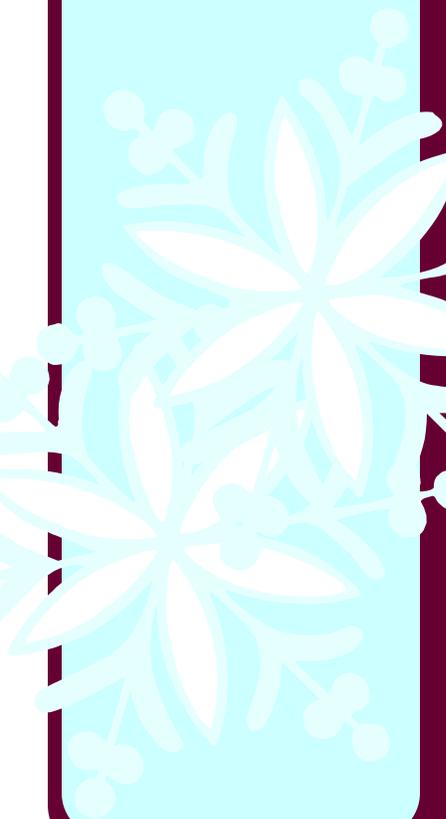
You're Invited! JMG Award Recognition Event

Tuesday, February 8 * 6:30-8:30pm * Gateway Center in Helena, MT

Please join us in an evening to commend award-winning schools and teachers for their commitment to JMG students and quality education! We will be presenting awards given by our national organization, Jobs for America's Graduates (JAG), to the schools and JMG Specialists that have been recognized as top performing programs.

- *Enjoy hors d'oeuvres and beverages while mingling with JMG supporters*
- *Ask your local representative to accept the award for being a "5 for 5" school!*

*Please RSVP to Drea Brown no later than
January 21, 2011
Phone: 444-0978 Email: dbrown@mt.gov*



Career Specialist Winter Training

High School and Middle School

February 8-9 at the Holiday Inn Downtown in Helena. MT

High School Training:

Date: Tuesday, February 8

Time: 11:30am – 5:00pm

Agenda: JMG Accreditation, Program of Work, Preparing for CDC, Electronic Portfolios, Best Practices

Middle School Training:

Date: Wednesday, February 9

Time: 8:00am – 3:00pm

Agenda: JMG Accreditation, Middle School Adventures, Database, Best Practices

DEADLINE JANUARY 14 to RSVP and Reserve Your Room:

Contact Lucille Thomason at 444-2534 or lthomason@mt.gov.

Reserve your room by calling the Holiday Inn at 443-2200.

Hotel Information:

****Training will be held at the Holiday Inn Downtown in Helena. A room block is being held under JMG for \$95/night – call 443-2200 to reserve your room.***

Please note:

****Dates of training differ from the JMG calendar due to legislative scheduling.***

****Because it's a legislative year, rooms will fill up fast – book yours ASAP!***

****Also plan to attend the JMG Awards Event to be held the evening of February 8***

DATABASE REMINDER:

ENDMS DATABASE ENTRY:

- Profiles entered for any new JMG students
- 2010 senior follow-ups including job and school placement
- Model services

Due February 18

Reminders for High School Specialists:

Career Development Conference – Start Now!

Now is the time to start your students thinking about CDC and planning for what event they want to compete in. Remember, they may compete in two events, but only one may be on-site. Refer to your latest Competitive Event Manual for details!

JMG Scholarship Deadline – April 1

Students planning to attend college might be interested in applying for a JMG Scholarship. More information will be available during winter training, so keep an eye out for it!

The Scoop Around the State

Thank you to those who responded when asked what your JMG classes are doing! There are so many things going on in JMG classrooms we couldn't fit them here; for quick summaries of the highlights – and some great ideas for your own class – check out the next page!

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The Scoop Around the State

Butte High School and Butte Career Center: Volunteered for the Butte Cares Community Helping Hand Clothing Drive by sorting, folding and stocking clothing tables. Also volunteered for the Mining City Christmas Project (hosted by the Human Resources Council (HRC) Dist. XII), where students were responsible for setting up a makeshift toy store. Over 200 families were able to select gifts for their children. Curriculum has included COPEs/COPS/CAPS and the Exploratory Career Notebook; Job Shadowing will start next semester.

Cascade High School: Adopted a family in need for the holidays; bought clothing and some toys for a family of three kids (boy is 12, girls are 8 and 5). Arranging job shadowing for second semester.

Culbertson High School and Middle School: Working with nursing home residents once a week, reading to younger students, and sewing scarves for fundraisers. Also decorated the hospital for Christmas, attended OPI Peer Educator Training and presented a workshop, prepared/served a meal for veterans on Veterans Day, made spirit posters and put them around town, made decorations for staff Christmas party, and helped with the local food bank. High school students gave middle school students dance lessons to prepare for their dance and middle school students had etiquette classes. Organized and ran a "Duck Pond" to earn money for Operation Christmas Shoe Box, where both middle school and high school students prepared shoe boxes filled with gifts and letters for children around the world. Now we are tracking the boxes to see what country they go to! In class, students completed targeted resumes and cover letters for Career Day with the Nemont Telephone Co-op. Freshmen are using the Real Game and seniors have started a sewing/cooking unit.

Dodson High School: Decorated school for Christmas, including decorating the stage for the Christmas show and painting a map of the world for our "Christmas Around the World" theme. Working on answering interview questions in class.

Glasgow High School: Working on employment tests, personality tests, aptitude tests, and career portfolio. Held Candy Cane fundraiser in December (JMG students sell candy canes and deliver them to students before the break). For leadership activity, each week a JMG student leads the school in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Glendive High School: Decorated a Christmas tree with a breast cancer theme that was auctioned off to support Glendive's Healthy Communities Coalition. Also baked/decorated Christmas cookies and gave them to teachers/staff as an appreciation for all that they do!

Helena High School: Participated in the Cross-town Carnival, Think Pink Campaign, and the Festival of Trees. Conducted I & I and delivered painted pumpkins to retirement homes. For the holiday season students made door decorations, participated in Toys for Tots, prepared a food basket for a Bengal family, and worked on the Winter Formal. Also worked on an "Exploring Your Careers" project.

Helena PAL: Held two Headstart Christmas parties on December 21; made fleece scarves, decorated gift bags, and made fun gifts. Santa even came to take pictures with our young friends! In January, students will start work on Career Exploratory Notebooks, take the COPEs, CAPS, COPS assessments, begin researching careers, talk to job shadow hosts, and write career essays.

Judith Gap High School: Using MCIS extensively to discover careers, explore interests, research colleges, and realize cost of living. Sponsored a benefit auction for a local family, prepared Thanksgiving Dinner for our senior citizens, and cut Christmas trees for classrooms. Leadership activities included planning activities for Red Ribbon Week and organizing Christmas Fun Day for our school.

Malta High School: Worked with Headstart and made ornaments, played games, and frosted cookies with the kids. Went to the assisted living facility and made gingerbread houses with residents. Worked with FCCLA to put on a dodgeball tournament to raise money for the Miracle Network and also bought a needy family of five warm clothing for Christmas. Next semester students will work on resumes, cover letters, and get ready for competitive events.

Nashua High School: Carved pumpkins in October with 3rd grade class. Made a decoration with the kindergarteners for the holidays and wrote letters from Santa back to them. Strung lights in our hallways for Christmas, made our adopt-a-family tree for our Christmas dinner/presents wish list, and worked with the Lions Club to move totes to school for the Christmas store. Also made spirit signs for new sports season and did a 50-50 at a basketball game to help raise money to buy presents for our adopt-a-family. Looking into cost and fundraising to replace the mats on our stage in the gym. Working on resumes in class: have written a functional skills resume and will complete a chronological resume as well. Also designed a new shirt for our class.

North Star High School: Busy developing cover letters and resumes. Filled 160 treat bags for Santa to bring to our Elementary Holiday Concert as well as folding and mailing out our school newsletter to 700+ district residents each month. Held I & I in November and this year initiated a "Friday Game Day" where we play games like *Apples to Apples* and *Categories* to help with vocabulary development.

Powell County High School: Organized a "Christmas Giveaway," which consists of gathering gently used gift donations and giving them away to less fortunate members of the community. Starting a student lunch area since our school does not have a cafeteria.

Roberts High School: Made Red Ribbon Week posters for elementary, pumpkin carving for the Roberts Middle School JMG Community Contest, wrote holiday letters to troops serving in the military and letters from Santa for the elementary. Working on resumes, personal statements for college applications and scholarships, and with the MCIS website on work skills and occupations.

Sidney High School: Working on resumes, cover letters, application forms, scholarship preparation, portfolios and video editing techniques. Students attended a Job Fair and presentation by JSEC and participated in projects such as drive-by raking, Thanksgiving basket for social services, and caroling at Extended Care and Assisted Living Facility; also held I & I, and Halloween and Christmas Parties.

Whitefish High School: Worked on interest, abilities, and value assessments and merged the results from inventories with future career goals to complete a career research project (including an interview with someone in the industry, a research/reflection paper, and a class presentation on chosen career). Will later have the chance to do a job shadow within their career. Also working with a 'Life Coach' in the local community who has volunteered to come into our class and teach valuable skills to help the students attain success at many levels.

Wolf Point Middle School: Used Channel 1 news station for current events lessons. Students enjoy the pop quizzes, new technology, plays of the week, military updates, and efforts of relief the USA makes for citizens of all countries. Also learning about the importance and value of grades, attendance, and rules and how to make a connection between these and the world outside the classroom.