General Information

What is the National Career Development Conference?
The 2024 National Career Development Conference (NCDC) is the pinnacle experience for youth involved in the JAG Career Association (JAG CA) to demonstrate their skills, explore career options, make connections with employers, and create pathways for their future.

When does NCDC begin and end?
Registration for the NCDC begins at 8:00 a.m. on Thursday, April 18th ahead of the Competitive Events beginning at 12:00 pm, the College & Career Expo beginning at 1:00 pm, and the Educational Workshops beginning at 1:00 pm. The NCDC concludes on Saturday, April 20, after the Grand Awards Dance, at midnight.

Candidates running to be a JAG CA National Officer should arrive at the Marriott St. Louis Grand on Wednesday, April 17 by 3:00 pm.

Where is the 2024 JAG NCDC being held?
Programming will be held at the Marriott St. Louis Grand in St. Louis, MO, from April 18 - 20, 2024.

The Opening Ceremony, happening April 18 at 7:00 pm, and the Grand Awards Session, happening April 20 from 7:00-9:00 pm, will be held in the Auditorium at the St. Louis Convention Center (across the street) from the Marriott St. Louis Grand.

Marriott St. Louis Grand Hotel
800 Washington Ave.
St. Louis, MO 63101

St. Louis Convention Center
911 Washington Ave, St. Louis, MO 63101

What is the dress code?
There are a variety of events with different dress codes. The opening ceremony, competitions, and Awards Ceremony should be business
professional. Workshops and the College & Career Expo can be business casual.

The Grand Awards Dance is themed a “Hollywood Premier” so you should “dress to impress”, or come dressed as your favorite movie character. Fun props will be provided.

**What is the weather like in St. Louis, MO during the meeting dates?**
The average temperatures in St. Louis, MO are high-40s to high-60s. There is the possibility of rain during this time so bring an umbrella.

**Is there accessibility for persons with disabilities?**
The goal of the Marriott St. Louis Grand is to meet every person's needs. For people who require accommodations, this means providing a fully accessible environment. The hotel complies with the regulations set by the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA). More details can be found on the accessibility portion of the hotel's [website](http://example.com) by navigating to the Property Details portion and reviewing the Accessibility Information tab. Please make special arrangements ahead of time by contacting the hotel concierge.

**Who do I contact if I have hotel and travel inquiries, meeting programming and/or general meeting questions?**
Please send all inquiries to [events@jag.org](mailto:events@jag.org).

**Registration Information**

**What is the cost of NCDC registration?**
$99.00 (this includes the cost for registration, event competition, tickets to the general sessions, entrance to workshops, the College & Career Expo, keynote speakers, and a t-shirt).

**How can I register for the conference?**
2024 NCDC registration is a 3-step process.

**Registration Overview and Deadlines**
Registration Fee: $99 per person (plus applicable processing fees for online payments)

- Step 1 - Team Registration Deadline: February 15, 2024
- Step 2 - Attendee Name Submission Deadline: March 15, 2024
Registration Step 1

Step 1 is to register your affiliate’s team(s) as a group and reserve space in the competitions. Please provide a total team headcount and the Competitive Events you plan to have represented in the following categories: Middle School Participants, High School Participants, Collegiate or Out-of-School Participants, JAG Affiliate Staff, Advisors/Specialists, CSAs (State Lead), and Chaperones.

Please complete this no later than February 15. You will be sent a confirmation email with a link to complete the next step of the process immediately following the successful completion of this form.

CSA/State Lead, if you have multiple regions/districts registering participants, please forward the Step 1 Registration form for them to complete registration and payment.

All invoices will be based on the numbers provided in Step 1 of the NCDC Registration process. Refunds for cancellations will be processed up until March 15. Any cancellations after March 15 will not be refunded.

Registration Step 2

In Step 2 of the registration process, the CSA/State Lead will submit one final attendee list with the names of all individuals registering within your state.

The Step 2 Group Registration Form should be forwarded to any Specialist who has participants attending the NCDC, or any adult chaperone who will be attending from your Affiliate.

JAG Affiliate Staff, Advisors, and/or Specialists MUST submit their registration details by completing the Excel spreadsheet template attached here and emailing the completed spreadsheet to their CSA/State Lead. The CSA will compile a list of all registrations from their state and upload the final document here. All columns must be completed fully to be considered.

The deadline to complete Step 2 of the NCDC Registration process is March 15. The CSA/State Lead will receive confirmation of all affiliate
registrations.

**Registration Step 3**
Finally, **Step 3** is to reserve the hotel rooms needed for your group. The **hotel reservation link is currently open and available** [here](#). The negotiated hotel room rate is $189 plus taxes. Please click that link to reserve your individual hotel rooms prior to March 15. After that date hotel rooms may not be available.

Check out the JAG 2024 NCDC registration page for a [video tutorial](#) and FAQs.

**Will I receive a refund if I cancel?**
Refunds will be processed on all cancellations received in writing by March 15th. Due to planning costs, no portion of the registration fee will be refunded for cancellations after March 15th. For meeting cancellations, please contact [events@jag.org](mailto:events@jag.org).

**What if we need to add, remove, or replace a team member?**
If a team member needs to be added, removed, or replaced, contact Erika Hernandez at [events@jag.org](mailto:events@jag.org) by March 15. Changes made after March 15 cannot be guaranteed.

**Am I able to pay for registration fees via credit card?**
Registration can be paid during Step 1 of the registration process via PayPal. You will be prompted to enter your payment information in the PayPal portal when completing Step 1 of the registration process.

**What meals are provided as part of my registration?**
Your registration does not include meals.

Additional answers to questions regarding registration can be found [here](#).

**NCA Officer Applications**
**Where is the NCA Application located?**
Linked [HERE](#), or on the [JAG Website](#), [Genius](#) or [Headrush](#) Pages.

**What elements are required to submit with the NCA Officer application?**
When is the NCA Officer application deadline?
All documents must be emailed to nca@jag.org by March 15, 2024.

Is there an age requirement for NCA Officers?
NCA Officer candidates can be a JAG participant from any grade level, including current HS Seniors. They must be able to honor the time commitment in the following year, or two in the case of the President-Elect.

Is the CSA representative responsible for submitting the application with the endorsed applicants?
Applications should be emailed to nca@jag.org by the individual applicant. The CSA must sign off on the candidate and/or provide a letter of reference for their candidacy.

Travel Information
What is the closest airport to the Marriott St. Louis Grand?
The closest airport to the Marriott St. Louis Grand is St. Louis Lambert International Airport located approximately 14 miles away from the hotel.

What are my transportation options once I arrive?
Hotel Shuttle: A hotel shuttle is not provided to and from the nearby airports.

Parking: The Marriott St. Louis Grand offers both on-site parking and valet parking at the below rates.
- On-Site Parking Daily: $35
- Valet Daily: $53

Self or Valet does not accommodate oversized vehicles.
Rideshare: Rideshare applications like Lyft and Uber offer pickup and drop-off transportation services for passengers at the St. Louis airport. Estimated costs for rideshare to and from the airport and hotel are about $25-65, one way.

Passengers who have requested rides through the Lyft and Uber apps should follow signs for ground transportation and baggage claim. When ready, walk outside and look for “Passenger Pickups.”

- Please wait to request your ride until after you’ve claimed your luggage at baggage claim.
- Please use the designated crosswalks to the passenger pickup area and be aware of vehicle traffic in the area.
- Ride app drivers are not allowed to solicit customers, and payment is made within the mobile app.
- Rides may only be requested through the mobile apps.
- Before you get into a ride app vehicle, make sure the license plate, car make and model, and driver name match what is in the app.

Taxicabs: Taxicabs are readily available and serve the St. Louis, MO area. Check with your taxicab company of choice (or with your driver at the airport) for more information on fares and destinations served.

General Safety Tips for Navigating a City
Traveling to a new place or city is exciting! Here are some tips to keep you safe, so you can enjoy all that St. Louis has to offer.

- **Stay Alert and Aware:** Remain attentive and aware of your surroundings and avoid being distracted by your phone.
- **Keep Valuables Secure:** Keep your belongings secure and out of sight, especially in crowded areas. Consider using a cross-body bag or keeping wallets and phones in the front pockets of your pants.
- **Plan Your Route:** Before heading out, familiarize yourself with the area and plan your route.
- **Use Trusted Transportation:** Opt for reputable transportation services such as licensed taxis, rideshare apps, or public transit when moving around the city. Verify the identity of your driver and ensure the vehicle matches the description provided.
- **Stay Connected:** Keep connected with the group you are traveling with. Make sure you have everyone’s number and check in with one
another throughout the day. Having a group chat is an easy way to keep everyone in the loop and share information.

**NCA Day in St. Louis**

All arrangements, including transportation, for the NCA Day in St. Louis are selected, managed, and paid for by the individual State Affiliates and/or local programs. Options can be found in the attached flyer.