

GENERAL INFORMATION

- » Multi-phased intervention program targeting high school dropouts 15½ to 18 years of age
- » Structured, disciplined 5½ month Residential Phase focusing on education and life skills followed by a 12- month Post-Residential Phase utilizing trained Mentors supporting Graduates engaged in positive placement
- » 196,644 graduates since Youth Challenge inception in 1993 (including graduates from closed YCPs)
- » NGYCP has 40 Youth Challenge and 7 Job Challenge Programs in 31 states and territories with ~2,400 employees

THE CHALLENGE MODEL

- » Administered by the Department of Defense (DoD) and implemented by the National Guard Bureau (NGB)
- » Funded by Federal and State entities: Federal government contributes 75% and States contribute 25%
- » Utilizes military-like discipline & training along with educational instruction, experiential learning & mentoring
- » Focused on improving education, life skills, discipline and employment potential of participants
- » Based on eight core components: Academic Excellence, Life Coping Skills, Job Skills, Health and Hygiene, Responsible Citizenship, Service to Community, Leadership/Followership, and Physical Fitness

CHALLENGE ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA

- » Economically and educationally disadvantaged youth from within each program state, district, or territory
- » 15½ to 18-year-old high school dropouts or students who are at-risk of not graduating
- » Enroll voluntarily
- » Willing to be drug free
- » Not on parole or probation for other than juvenile status offenses, not indicted or charged, and free of felony convictions or capital offenses
- » Physically and mentally capable of program participation with reasonable accommodations for disabilities

THE JOB CHALLENGE PROGRAM (JCP)

- » Optional Job Skills Phase; utilizes the Challenge Model for NGYCP grads under the age of 21
- » Flexible, 5-month residential phase where NGYCP graduates pursue locally in-demand job certifications
- » 1,665 graduates since Job Challenge inception in 2015

YOUTH CHALLENGE STATISTICS FY93-FY22 // JOB CHALLENGE STATISTICS FY15-FY22

- » 470,320 NGYCP Applicants // 3,623 JCP Applicants
- » 270,081 NGYCP Enrollees // 2,189 JCP Enrollees
- » 194,979 NGYCP Graduates // 1,665 JCP Graduates
- » 169,712 NGYCP Credentials // 9,493 JCP Credentials (*NOTE: Credentials are defined as HS Equivalency Diploma, HS Diploma, HS Credit, College Credit, Job Certifications and Apprenticeships*)
- » 12,886,993 Hours of Service to Communities valued at \$269,945,503 (*NOTE: Value based on national average per hour volunteer value: <https://www.independentsector.org/resource/the-value-of-volunteer-time/>*)

CURRENT YOUTH CHALLENGE PROGRAMS

1. AK – Alaska Military Youth Academy – Fort Richardson, AK
2. AR – Arkansas Youth Challenge – Camp Robinson, N. Little Rock, AR
3. CA – Discovery Challenge Academy – Sharpe Army Depot, Stockton, CA
4. CA – Grizzly Youth Academy – Camp San Luis Obispo, CA
5. CA – Sunburst Youth Challenge Academy – Los Alamitos, CA
6. DC – Capital Guardian Youth Challenge Academy – Laurel, MD
7. FL – Florida Youth Challenge Academy – Camp Blanding, FL
8. GA – Fort Gordon Youth Challenge Academy – Fort Gordon, GA
9. GA – Fort Stewart Youth Challenge Academy – Fort Stewart, GA
10. HI – Kalaeloa Youth Challenge Academy – Barbers Point NAS, Kapolei, HI
11. HI – Hilo Youth Challenge Academy – Keaukaha Military Reserve, Hilo, HI
12. ID – Idaho Youth Challenge Academy – Pierce, ID
13. IL – Lincoln’s Challenge Academy – Rantoul, IL
14. IN – Hoosier Youth Challenge Academy – Knightstown, IN
15. KY – Appalachian Challenge Academy – Gray’s Knob, KY
16. KY – Bluegrass Challenge Academy – Fort Knox, KY
17. LA – Camp Beauregard Youth Challenge Academy – Camp Beauregard, Pineville, LA
18. LA – Camp Minden Youth Challenge Academy – Camp Minden, LA
19. LA – Gillis Long Youth Challenge Academy – Carville, LA
20. MD – Freestate Challenge Academy – Aberdeen Proving Grounds, MD
21. MI – Michigan Youth Challenge Academy – Battle Creek, MI
22. MS – Mississippi Challenge Academy – Camp Shelby, MS
23. MT – Montana Youth Challenge Academy – University of MT Western, Dillon, MT
24. NC – New London Challenge Academy – New London, NC
25. NC – Salemburg Tarheel Challenge Academy – Salemburg, NC
26. NJ – New Jersey Youth Challenge Academy – Sea Girt, NJ
27. NM – New Mexico Youth Challenge Academy – Roswell, NM
28. NV – Battle Born Youth Challenge Academy – Carlin, NV
29. OK – Thunderbird Challenge Academy – Pryor, OK
30. OR – Oregon Youth Challenge Academy – Bend, OR
31. PA – Keystone State Challenge Academy – Fort Indiantown Gap, PA
32. PR – Puerto Rico Youth Challenge Academy – Fort Allen, Juana Diaz, PR
33. SC – South Carolina Youth Challenge Academy – McCrady ARNG Training Center, Eastover, SC
34. TX – Texas Challenge Academy – Eagle Lake, TX
35. VA – Commonwealth Challenge – Camp Pendleton, Virginia Beach, VA
36. WA – Washington Youth Academy – Bremerton, WA
37. WI – Wisconsin Youth Challenge Academy – Fort McCoy, WI
38. WV – Mountaineer Challenge Academy - North – Camp Dawson, Kingwood, WV
39. WV – Mountaineer Challenge Academy - South – Montgomery, WV
40. WY – Wyoming Cowboy Challenge Academy – Camp Guernsey, WY

CURRENT JOB CHALLENGE PROGRAMS

1. CA – California Jobs Challenge – Los Alamitos, CA
2. GA – Georgia Job Challenge Program – Fort Stewart, GA
3. LA – Louisiana Job Challenge Program – Gillis Long / Carville, LA*
4. MI – Michigan Job Challenge Program – Fort Custer, Battle Creek, MI
5. SC – South Carolina Post Challenge Program – McCrady ARNG Training Center, Eastover, SC
6. WV – Mountaineer Job Challenge Program – Camp Dawson, Kingwood, WV
7. NM – New Mexico Job Challenge Program – Albuquerque, NM

*Department of Labor funded

