Basic Guide to Finding an Agent

1) Figure out what you want to do (kill missions, courier missions, trade missions, mining missions)
2) Based on your decision find which division(s) of agent you would want to work for (http://www.evegeek.com/mission.php)
3) While in EVE, open up your character sheet and open the standings tab
4) Of the four main races (your not limited to these) pick one, right-click it and pick "Show Info"
5) In their info sheet open the "Member Corps" tab
6) From the list of member corporations (All of which are NPC corps) pick one and view its info sheet and open the "Agents" tab
7) From there you can see the different divisions of agent the corp has available
8) If the corporation doesn't have the division you want, try finding a division that they do have that might be acceptable, if not then go back to step 6
9) Open that agent division and go over the list of agents that are available to you
10) Minimize everything but the corp info sheet and active the map (F10)
11) For each agent that you think yo want to work for, right-click them and pick "Set Destination"
12) When you do this, along the left side of the map it will show how many jump it is to that agent and the security of the destination system
13) If the destination is into too low a security system of is too far for your liking then try a different agent
14) If none of the agents are in acceptable locations then try a different division or corporation

Sorry if this seems kind of long and tedious to get a agent but its usually worth it cause if you can find that one good agent you'll be able to make use of him/her for a good long time and make plenty money, LP, and gain lots of standing with their corp :). Also, if you already know what your looking for you can use http://www.eve-agents.com/ to find exactly which agent you want, just make sure that the agent still exists (event agent) or isn't a storyline agent

Figuring out When you get to use the Next Level of Agent

1) Open up the info sheet for the corp you have been working for
2) Open the "Agents" tab and open your favored agent division
3) Find the closest agent that isn't available to you (or whichever agent you want to make your goal to reach)
4) Open their info sheet and take note of your standing with them
5) Goto their "Agent Info" tab and look at the bottom line, the number there should be the stand that you have to have with the corporation to get access to that agent

If you want to see how much your standing is increasing you can always find it in your character sheet. Just find the corp, right-click it, and pick "Show Transactions"

FINAL TIP: Take a look at skills under the "Social" category, those help a LOT with missioning