

**Junior Achievement SPARK Program**  
**2020-2022 Cohort**

**WHAT IS THE SPARK PROGRAM?**

Junior Achievement of Southern Massachusetts’ SPARK Program is a free two-year program for girls focused on leadership development and entrepreneurial thinking. SPARK offers a unique blend of financial literacy, career readiness, entrepreneurship, and leadership education through hands-on, engaging activities.

The program consists of a week-long residential camp at Massachusetts Maritime Academy in Summer 2020, quarterly SPARK Workshops throughout the school year, a week-long residential camp at Bridgewater State University in Summer 2021, and quarterly SPARK Workshops throughout the following school year.



During each camp, participants form teams to create and present social enterprise business plans while participating in a variety of activities including: Massachusetts Maritime Academy’s Ship Simulator, Bridgewater State University’s Observatory, Introduction to Karate, Philanthropic Scavenger Hunt, Career Pathways Round Table, Quidditch, and more. Past SPARK Workshops have included Paint Night, National Marine Life Center, Atlantic White Shark Conservancy, Indoor Rock Climbing, and more.

In addition, there will be opportunities for participants to stay engaged with the program as SPARK Alumni.

**WHO SHOULD APPLY?**

Do you want to develop your leadership skills? Do you dream of owning your own business one day? Do you want to change your community for the better? Do you want to make connections with other girls your age from across the region?

The SPARK Program is open to girls ages 13-14 from Acushnet, Attleboro, Berkley, Dartmouth, Dighton, Fairhaven, Fall River, Freetown, Marion, Mattapoisett, New Bedford, North Attleboro, Raynham, Rehoboth, Rochester, Seekonk, Somerset, Swansea, Taunton, Wareham, and Westport.

**WHAT IS THE COMMITMENT?**

By applying to the SPARK Program, you are committing to attend the following SPARK Camps and Workshops:

<b><u>2020-2022 SPARK Program Schedule</u></b>		
<b>Year One Residential Camp:</b>	<b>Monday, July 27, 2020 – Friday, July 31, 2020</b>	<b>Massachusetts Maritime Academy (Buzzards Bay, MA)</b>
<b>(4) SPARK Workshops during the 2020-2021 school year: 6:00pm-8:00pm on a weeknight, varying locations</b>		
<b>Year Two Residential Camp:</b>	<b>Monday, July 12, 2021 – Friday, July 16, 2021</b>	<b>Bridgewater State University (Bridgewater, MA)</b>
<b>(4) SPARK Workshops during the 2021-2022 school year: 6:00pm-8:00pm on a weeknight, varying locations</b>		

**HOW DO I APPLY?**

Complete the enclosed application and send it (along with any supplemental materials) to Nicole Nault at [nicole.nault@ja.org](mailto:nicole.nault@ja.org) or this address: Junior Achievement / 128 Union Street, Suite 304 / New Bedford, MA 02740. Applicants may be invited to attend an interview and will be accepted on a rolling admissions basis, but please note that space is limited to 24 participants.

**WANT MORE INFORMATION?**

Contact Events & Development Manager Nicole Nault at [nicole.nault@ja.org](mailto:nicole.nault@ja.org) or 508-997-6536.



**Junior Achievement SPARK Program Application**  
**2020-2022 Cohort**

*To apply, please complete the application below and send it (along with any supplemental materials) to JA Events & Development Manager Nicole Nault at [nicole.nault@ja.org](mailto:nicole.nault@ja.org) or mail to the JA Office: Junior Achievement / 128 Union Street, Suite 304 / New Bedford, MA 02740. Applicants may be invited to attend an interview and will be accepted on a rolling admissions basis, but please note that space is limited to 24 participants.*

**STUDENT INFORMATION**

Date of Application: \_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_\_

Student Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Date of Birth: \_\_\_\_\_

Home Address: \_\_\_\_\_ City: \_\_\_\_\_

School Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Grade as of September 2020: \_\_\_\_\_

How did you hear about the SPARK Program? \_\_\_\_\_

**PARENT/GUARDIAN INFORMATION**

Primary Contact Name & Relationship to Participant: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Does the applicant qualify for free or reduced lunch?  Yes  No

How do you think the applicant will benefit from Junior Achievement's SPARK Program?

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**APPLICANT INFORMATION:**

**Who are you? Tell us about yourself. There are no wrong answers!**

*To be completed by the applicant; check all that apply.*

1. When you work in a group, which of the following best describes you?

- I take charge and organize tasks for my group.
- I wait for someone else to tell me what needs to be done, then get the tasks completed.
- I don't like working in groups.

*Explain your answer:* \_\_\_\_\_

2. When you have a problem, what do you do?

- I ask for help.
- I keep it to myself.
- I do research to find the answer.
- Other (please describe)

*Explain your answer:* \_\_\_\_\_

3. What is your favorite activity to do with friends?

- Go to the movies
- Listen to music
- Go to the park
- Play a sport
- Other (please describe)

4. What do you do when you have time alone?

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5. Describe yourself in one sentence:

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6. What are your school interests and activities?

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7. Tell us about a difficult time in your life from which you've learned a valuable lesson.

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8. Tell us about a time when you were a leader.

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9. "I am good at..."

- Teamwork
- Technology
- School
- Dancing or Singing
- Writing
- Art
- Sports
- Problem Solving
- Taking Care of Others

10. Is there anything else you would like to share?

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### CREATIVE ASSIGNMENT

Help us get to know you better! Imagine yourself in the future, and show us where you think you'll be or what you think you'll be doing. You can interpret this assignment creatively! Here are some ideas:

- Write an essay or poem
- Create a collage
- Make a video (and send us a Google Drive link)