

Jr. Apprentice (JrA), a program of Junior Achievement of Southwest New England, is looking to identify local professionals interested in making an impact in the lives of Hartford teens. Strong candidates should be able to answer “yes” to the following questions:

- Was there someone in your life who influenced your career path?
- Do you find your work meaningful, fulfilling or important?
- Do you believe one of the best ways to explore career fit & develop job skills is from work experience?

About Jr. Apprentice:

By introducing young people to a variety of career interests and career mentorship, the program’s ultimate purpose is to:

- *Promote engaged, career-ready teens:* as an apprentice, a teen develops skills in a career path they find meaningful and financially stable;
- *Build relationships:* we’ve all heard the phrase, “it’s all about who you know”. Apprenticeships encourage a mentoring relationship between teens and working adults. These relationships also expand a teen’s network of adult role models and advisors.
- *Foster connections between local professionals and the future workforce:* Apprenticeships close the gap between school and career. They allow current employers to develop the local workforce and attract high-caliber talent to their industry.

As a Jr. Apprentice, young people in Hartford have the opportunity to explore different careers, gain technical skills and knowledge, receive career mentorship and learn more about what careers might be a good fit based on their own skills, interests and values.

How to Get Involved

Become a Professional-Mentor: Host a Jr. Apprentice student at your work-site and mentor/develop the apprentice in your career path.

- a. 3-6 hours/week for a total of 60 hours (February – June)
- b. Attend a Professional-Mentor Orientation led by Jr. Apprentice Staff
- c. Participate in program check-ins, site visits, and final program graduations (Dates TBA)

Lead a Workforce Development Workshop: Share your skills or experiences with local teens by facilitating one of the career-readiness workshops at our partner school: **Weaver High School**

Sponsor a Jr. Apprentice: Enable a teen to get paid* work experience, enroll in multiple career-readiness classes throughout the school year, and receive valuable career mentorship. Sponsorship may also cover students’ transportation to reduce barriers of getting to and from their assigned workplaces.

* Jr. Apprentice pays each student an hourly wage in partnership with the HSIP Program of the Hartford Public School System. Students are also given bus tokens for transportation to/from their work sites.

For more information:

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