What is Junior Achievement?
Junior Achievement (JA) gives elementary, middle, and high school students relevant, hands-on experiences and skills in financial literacy, work readiness, and entrepreneurship.

Who is involved in Junior Achievement programs?
Junior Achievement of Wisconsin in the Greater Green Bay Area provides programs for 3rd through 12th graders and serves over 6,000 students and 70 schools with over 400 volunteers.

Do I really have anything to offer these students?
Absolutely! Students should know about the business world around them and all the opportunities available to them. Your experiences and familiarity with the business world are exactly what the students should hear about. You are also there to be a role model to the students by illustrating where secondary education can lead them. Above all, you can give students a chance to be heard, share their ideas, and give them support and encouragement.

Who can volunteer?
Volunteers come from all walks of life. They span all age levels and include community activists such as parents, retirees, military personnel, employees from large companies, and small business owners. If you have the desire to be an inspirational role model, have the time to give to the students, and feel that there is a need for financial literacy, work readiness, and entrepreneurship education, you should be in a classroom!

What if I have never worked with students before?
No problem! We provide all the teaching materials and show you how to use them. We also give you helpful hints and ongoing support. Plus, the teacher is always in the classroom to help you.

What type of training is involved?
You may attend one of our group training sessions or schedule individual training. New volunteers attend one training session; however, they are not required to repeat training in future years even if the grade level they teach changes. We also can connect you with a veteran volunteer whom you can shadow for a class session so you can see volunteering in action.

What if I don’t have any public speaking experience?
Volunteering with JA is a great way to get started. We give you everything you need to say during your class and typically you will only be in front of the class for half of the 45-minute class time. For the rest of the class time, the students will be working on a group activity. Another great way to feel comfortable leading a class is to co-teach with a friend or coworker to share the speaking time.

Which class should I sign up for?
We offer classes for 3rd through 12th grade. You can choose an age group that interests you, a school that is close to your location, or a program topic that stands out to you such as JA Personal Finance or JA Economics for Success.

How much time will it take?
Programs are 5 to 7 weeks in length with one 45-minute class each week. Elementary programs are 5 class sessions, middle school is 6 sessions and high school is 7 sessions.

When would I be teaching?
All classes run during the school day, approximately between 7:30 am - 3 pm. Many of our volunteers go in before work or use their lunch break to teach. Middle school and high school have set class times posted so you can choose the time that works best for your schedule. When you sign up for an elementary school class, you can work with your teacher to find a time that works for you both.

What if my schedule is always changing?
If you want to volunteer but have a varying schedule, it may be best to work with a partner. Pick a fellow colleague or friend with whom you enjoy spending time to co-teach a class. Collective teaching will provide extra hands during your classes or a sub if you have a meeting or illness.

What if I can’t make it to one of my classes?
We know that you are busy, work is a priority, and that business meetings, sickness and travel are often unavoidable. We inform the teachers about this ahead of time. If you cannot make a visit, simply let your teacher know in advance and reschedule the visit.

I want to be involved but I simply do not have time to volunteer — what else can I do?
You could participate in numerous one-day fundraising events such as Business Challenge or Executive Business Challenge. Or consider volunteering in our office to help with administrative, marketing, or technological projects. We also welcome your personal donation to JA. We would love to help you get involved in any way that you can!

What does JA cost?
JA is provided at no cost to schools. The funding for the programs comes from corporations, private grants, individuals, and special events.

How do I get signed up to volunteer?
Contact the Junior Achievement office for more information or search and sign up for a class online.

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