JA Excellence through Ethics® | Program Brief | Initial Release

JA Excellence through Ethics is a 60- to 90-minute learning experience where students meet and interact with a local executive or business professional and learn about the importance of ethics in the workplace and in everyday life. Students will give thoughtful consideration and examination of personal beliefs and their relationship to ethics. They will start to develop a personal awareness of values. Activities and implementation design will vary based on grade level.

Redevelopment Highlights

- Materials available for download for students, volunteers, and educators
- Opportunities for classroom and peer-to-peer discussion
- Includes an optional post-speaker session (teacher-led)
- Two versions tailored toward grades 6–8 and grades 9–12

This program is part of the JA Work and Career Readiness Pathway and can be placed in Grades 6–12. The program may receive 1 to 2 Instructional Contact Hours (ICH) per class; volunteers are required.

Objectives

Student objectives will vary based on grade level. Students will be able to:

- Define ethics.
- Evaluate personal values in ethical dilemmas.
- Articulate and identify the steps necessary to make ethical decisions.
- Recognize the importance of identifying and understanding personal values as a means of avoiding unethical choices.

Outline

The JA Excellence through Ethics activities will vary based on grade level.

Below is a sample outline for high school.

Day of the Visit (required session, volunteer-led)

A business professional volunteer will speak to the students about ethics and lead self-assessment and ethics scenario activities. The session will last approximately 60–90 minutes.

Reflection Activity (optional session, teacher-led)

This optional reflection session is intended for teachers to implement with their students following the volunteer visit. Students will reflect and discuss their learnings after interacting with a local business professional who articulated how and why professionals make ethical choices and decisions regarding relationships, the work environment, and life.

Extended Learning Opportunities (Optional)

Students can log on to the JA My Way website to learn more about ethics, or have a debate about an ethical dilemma.