

## JUNIOR ACHIEVEMENT

### EMPOWERING YOUNG PEOPLE TO OWN THEIR ECONOMIC SUCCESS®

Sustaining its 100-year legacy of partnerships with businesses and educators, Junior Achievement continues to bring the real world to students, opening their minds to their potential and preparing them for the world of work.

**Students** participating in Junior Achievement practice the principles of financial management, along with developing the 21st century skills necessary to succeed in a global workforce. In addition to learning how to make and manage money, and how to become career and work ready, students are empowered to explore their potential to become successful entrepreneurs—even while they're in school.

External evaluations find that, overall, elementary school students who participate in JA program activities begin to think about how the lessons they learn will be important later in their life.

JA middle school students report developing or improving on their entrepreneurial, leadership, and decision-making skills, while also increasing their understanding of money management and how to explore careers and look for jobs.

Students in high school who experience JA programs note that what they learn in the classroom is important to their future success.

In general, research evaluations indicate that students engaged in JA are able to connect classroom lessons with real-life experiences. Students at all grade levels report that JA fosters a positive attitude and provides the knowledge and skills that will help them set personal goals, seek out important information, and be successful.

**Volunteers** presenting JA programs make school relevant and fun, which means students are more likely to be contributing, successful members of their communities. Volunteers share their real world experiences and present JA materials to help students bridge the gap between what they learn in school and what they can expect in the world of work. The majority of volunteers affirm that JA programs make an impact on students' lives.

**Educators** invite Junior Achievement into their classrooms because JA volunteers and program materials offer them an exciting learning environment that gives students a real-world perspective. JA program content supports curriculum standards to help students achieve educators' learning objectives. Overall, educators find that JA programs have a positive influence on students.

**Donors** find JA to be relevant because it inspires students to succeed and prepares them to be work ready. There is no other organization on a national scale that can deliver the turnkey, easy-to-implement solutions that will ensure donors' future employees are ready for the workforce.

### ABOUT JUNIOR ACHIEVEMENT

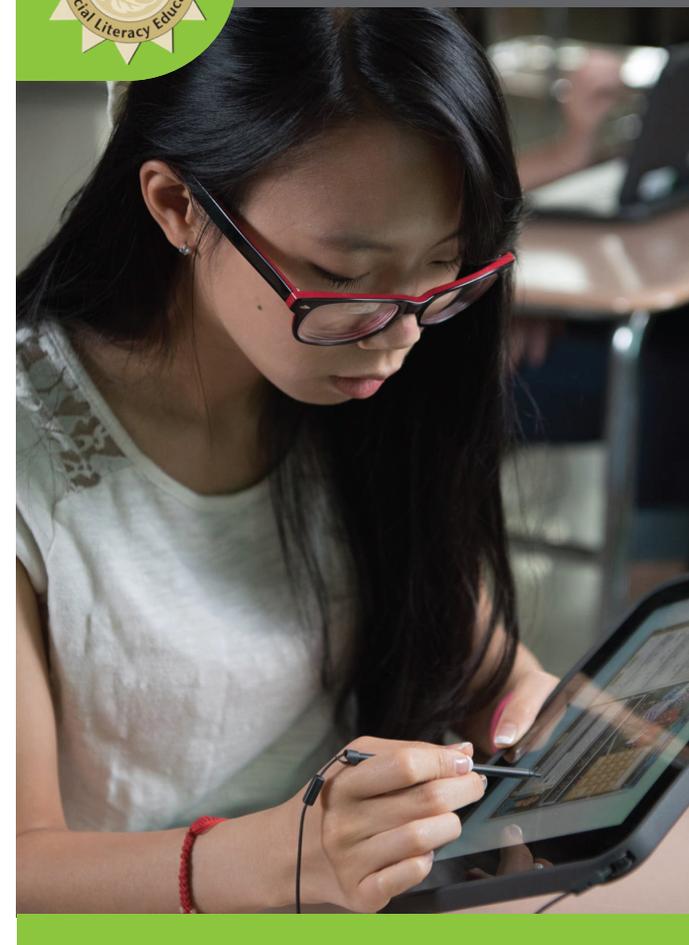
Junior Achievement is the world's largest organization dedicated to giving students from kindergarten through high school the knowledge and skills they need to own their economic success, plan for their future, and make smart academic and economic choices. JA programs are delivered by corporate and community volunteers and provide relevant, hands on experiences in financial literacy, work readiness, and entrepreneurship. Founded in 1919, JA currently reaches more than 4.8 million students per year in 107 markets across the United States.

Since 1946 Junior Achievement has been an integral part of the education and business communities in Central Illinois, growing to serve over 17,000 students annually.

For more information:  
[centralillinois.ja.org](http://centralillinois.ja.org)  
309.682.1800

508 High Point Lane, East Peoria, IL 61611

# K-12 PROGRAMS



100 YEARS. 100% READY.™

# ELEMENTARY SCHOOL



## JA Ourselfes®

Students are introduced to personal economics and the choices consumers make to meet their needs and wants. They learn about the role of money in society and gain practical information about earning, saving, and sharing money.



## JA Our Families®

Students are introduced to the concepts of families, neighborhoods, money, and needs and wants. They explore the ways in which businesses provide goods, services, and jobs for families.



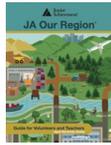
## JA Our Community®

Students learn how citizens benefit from and contribute to a community's success. Various jobs and their required skills are identified to demonstrate how the work people do positively affects a community's economy.



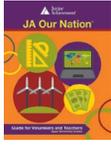
## JA Our City®

Students explore the choices people have with money, along with practical money management for personal and business accounts. They learn about the importance of economic exchange in a city and how entrepreneurs promote a healthy economy.



## JA Our Region®

Students learn a practical approach to starting a business. They develop an understanding of entrepreneurship and how entrepreneurs use resources to produce goods and services in a region.



## JA Our Nation®

Students gain practical information about the U.S. free market system and how it serves as an economic engine for businesses and careers. They learn that entrepreneurial and innovative thinking are required for high-growth, high-demand careers in a global economy.



## JA More than Money®

Students learn about money management, goods and services, and global markets. They study a practical approach to starting a business and making smart decisions about managing money.



## \*JA Capstone Experience—JA BizTown®

Students operate banks, manage restaurants, use debit cards, and vote for a mayor. They connect the dots between what they learn in school and the real world.

*\*JA Capstone Experiences are not yet available in our area but could be implemented locally with your help!*

# MIDDLE SCHOOL



## JA Economics for Success®

Building a life is a complex project, particularly for young people entering the world of work. Students learn how to earn money, spend wisely within a budget, save and invest, use credit cautiously, and protect their personal finances.



## JA Global Marketplace® Blended Model

Students are introduced to the global marketplace and the ways in which countries buy and sell from each other. They gain an understanding of producers and consumers in the interconnected global market and the effects of free enterprise.



## JA It's My Business!® Blended Model

Students learn how to turn an idea into a business, and are introduced to design-thinking as a problem solving process. The program provides an authentic entrepreneurial experience, with each session building toward a pitch competition.



## JA It's My Future® Blended Model

Students learn practical information to help prepare them for the working world. They develop the personal branding and job-hunting skills needed to earn a job.



## \*JA Capstone Experience—JA Finance Park®

At JA Finance Park, students act as adults and make personal financial decisions in a realistic facility, mobile unit, or virtual community. They develop lifelong financial skills through in-class and simulated experiences.



## WE NEED YOU

Junior Achievement programs thrive with the skills of volunteers who share their enthusiasm, helping students find a belief in themselves to take ownership of their future. Interested in volunteering? Thank you!

Contact us and we'll help find an opportunity that is the best fit for you.

**309-682-1800 or [centralillinois.ja.org](http://centralillinois.ja.org)**

# HIGH SCHOOL



## JA Be Entrepreneurial®

Students learn the essential elements of a practical business plan, inspiring them to take action and consider starting an entrepreneurial venture while still in high school.



## JA Career Success®

Students are equipped with the tools and skills required to earn and keep a job in high-growth career industries. They focus on developing the 4Cs—critical thinking, communication, collaboration, and creativity.



## JA Company Program® Blended Model

Students fill a need or solve a problem in their community by launching their own start-up business. They identify key elements of organizing and operating a business and start their own.



## JA Economics®

Students learn about the U.S. economic system and how economic principles influence business decisions. They examine careers and consumer issues, practice data analysis, problem solving, and critical thinking.



## JA Exploring Economics®

Hands-on activities foster lifelong skills and knowledge about how an economy works, including personal and world economics. Students examine international trade and the effects of inflation.



## JA Job Shadow®

Students acquire and apply the skills needed in demanding, ever-changing workplaces. They learn how to find and keep a fulfilling career through a visit to a professional work environment.



## JA Launch Lesson™

A point-of-entry program delivered by local entrepreneurs. Students gain firsthand knowledge about starting a business and the entrepreneurial journey.



## JA Personal Finance® Blended Model

Students examine the connection with today's financial decisions and future financial freedom, by learning about budgeting, earning, savings, credit and debt, consumer protection, smart shopping, risk management, and investing.



## JA Titan®

Students operate a fictitious Web company in which success depends on decisions about price, marketing, R&D, and business practices, and see how management decisions affect the bottom line.