

## FACT SHEET

### INSPIRING TOMORROW'S LEADERS

Junior Achievement strives to prepare today's students for tomorrow's economy through education and empowerment. In partnership with many organizations, mentors, and volunteers, JA is transforming the student experience with programs that bring relevant, hands-on application into everyday learning to energize students and enhance their education. Our focus on **career readiness, entrepreneurship, and finance skills** will empower the next generations to build a better future for themselves and their community.



### OUR VALUES

- ✓ Belief in the boundless potential of young people
- ✓ Commitment to the principles of market-based economics and entrepreneurship
- ✓ Passion for what we do and honesty, integrity, and excellence in how we do it
- ✓ Respect for the talents, creativity, perspectives, and backgrounds of all individuals
- ✓ Belief in the power of partnership and collaboration
- ✓ Conviction in the educational and motivational impact of relevant, hands-on learning

### WHAT IS JUNIOR ACHIEVEMENT?

Junior Achievement (JA) is the nation's largest organization dedicated to giving young people the knowledge and skills they need to own their economic success, plan for their future, and make smart academic and economic choices. JA's in-school programs are offered at no cost to the school and community organizations. JA of Washington is funded by over 3,600 corporate and private contributors as well as special events.

### PROGRAM REACH

In 2018-19, JA of Washington reached 69,190 students in over 2,500 classrooms and after-school locations. JA programs are taught by volunteers in inner cities, suburbs, and rural areas throughout Washington state and Northern Idaho. In addition, JA of Washington operates two JA Capstone education facilities, located in Yakima and Auburn, providing JA's high impact experiential programs *JA BizTown®* and *JA Finance Park®*. Mobile *JA Finance Park* experiences are now also operational in Eastern Washington. The goal for 2019-20 is 74,814 students.

### VOLUNTEER MODEL

Junior Achievement of Washington's over 5,000 volunteers come from all walks of life, including business experts, college students, parents, and retirees. These dedicated individuals serve as mentors, job shadow hosts, classroom, and JA Capstone program mentors and volunteers, and are the backbone of our organization.

### PROVEN SUCCESS

Junior Achievement is one of a few nonprofits to use independent, third-party evaluators to gauge the impact of its programs. Since 1993, evaluators have conducted studies on the effectiveness of Junior Achievement's programs. Findings prove that JA programs have a positive impact in a number of critical areas. Summaries of the findings are also published in the JA Programs section at [jawashington.org/programs](http://jawashington.org/programs).

### ORGANIZATIONAL OVERVIEW

Strategic leadership and direction for Junior Achievement of Washington is provided by a local volunteer Board of Directors in each of its six regions. Each board is comprised of business, education, and civic leaders, representing a wide range of businesses and academic institutions across Washington state. These Boards set the policy and direction for each region. Steve Hatfield, Region Bank President, Wells Fargo, is chair of Junior Achievement of Washington's Statewide Board of Directors. Natalie Vega O'Neil is the President and Chief Executive Officer of Junior Achievement of Washington.