LEARNING EXPERIENCE BRIEF

JA Career Ignite

Employment | Enrollment | Enlistment | Entrepreneurship



WORK & CAREER READINESS

The *JA Career Ignite* is an interactive in-person experience for high school students that connects them to post-secondary opportunities: Employment, Enrollment, Enlistment, and Entrepreneurship.

Utilizing the proven structure of *JA JobSpark*® and *JA Career Ignite*, this career fair will help students navigate their next steps in life by bringing together information about colleges, careers, military service, and entrepreneurship opportunities in northern Indiana. Students will explore their future pathways to prepare for next steps towards future career goals.

PATHWAYS

Employment: Students have direct access to local employers who are looking to hire high school students immediately following graduation. Employers share applications for open positions, internships, and job shadow opportunities. The event will provide the opportunity for onsite interviews.

Enrollment: Students explore what it takes to enroll and pay for a college or university in addition to learning about trade programs and certification courses for continued education.

Enlistment: Students discover enlistment opportunities in one of the branches of the US military.

Entrepreneurship: Students will have the opportunity to network with local entrepreneurs to guide them towards next steps in their entrepreneurial ventures.

OVERVIEW

Grade level: High school students

Format: One 1.5 to 2 hour in-person session, with pre-event and post-event activities that fit into existing class time

Pre-work: Students complete a free self-assessment on JA Here to Career® to identify best-fit careers before they arrive

Real-world access: Students meet local employers, colleges, trade programs, military branches, and entrepreneurs, with opportunities for onsite interviews and job applications

Built-in reflection: A post-event activity helps students turn what they learned into concrete next steps

Junior Achievement™

2027 - Junior Achievement of Northern Indiana

JA Career Exploration Fair

SESSION	OVERVIEW	OBJECTIVES	ACTIVITIES
Before the Fair	Participants assess their abilities, interests, and values in preparation for *JA Career Ignite*	• Investigate a variety of careers and the skills, education preparation, training, and personal qualities needed for those careers • Participants will discover best fit careers	• Participants complete self-assessment using the *JA Here to Career®* online career exploration resource
The Day of the Fair	Participants learn from volunteers about a range of career options across Employment, Enrollment, Enlistment, and Entrepreneur *(optional)* pathways in a 1.5 to 2 hour session	• Understand the training, skills, and education needed for a variety of jobs • Integrate self-knowledge into career-planning	• Meet and interact with various business representatives • Attend breakout sessions that enhance success skills • Opportunity for onsite company interviews
After the Fair	Participants reflect on what they learned during their preparation and the event	• Prepare to take their next steps towards future career goals	• Students will participate in a post event reflection activity