

# Work-Based Learning



Junior Achievement's WBL solutions are scalable, open to all high school students, benchmarked to standards, and available to schools at no cost. Our staff provides all materials, educator support and industry connections. Please contact us to learn more.

## Featured Programs

**JA Essential Skills For Work** prepares young people for successful careers and helps employers confidently hire candidates who are worth investing in.

- The program begins with a **mock internship** at a fictional software company. Students are onboarded by the Human Resources department, explore the employee handbook, and set SMART goals for their internship.
- Then, students work in teams to **solve business challenges** with different departments: Logistics, Executive, R&D, Sales, Information Services, and Production, and complete a group project guided by Colorado industry representatives.
- Finally, students complete scenario-based assessments to earn micro-credentials in six core competencies: Creativity and Innovation, Cultural Agility, Critical & Analytical Thinking, Engaging Communication, Effective Collaboration, and Self-Direction. Students who earn all six micro-credentials earn JA's **Essential Work Skills Credential**, which can be shared with employers or colleges.

**JA Future Ready Leaders** is an **applied learning experience** organized by Junior Achievement. Students prepare through a series of structured classroom lessons and activities. Then, students put what they've learned into practice by facilitating JA's elementary grade curriculum to children in their school district during one school day. Educators use an evaluation rubric to measure student learning.

### **Sessions include:**

- Leading with Purpose: Students recognize how values and character shape the choices leaders make, and identify traits that build trust and guide decisions under pressure
- Communicating and Responding as a Facilitator: Students identify key communication behaviors (verbal, nonverbal, listening), recognize common cues, and practice clear and engaging communication
- Leading through Decision Making: Assess unfamiliar situations by identifying what's really happening and who is affected, reflect on how intentional, character-driven responses shape their leadership
- Applied Learning Preparation: In collaboration with their teaching partner, students organize and prepare materials for smooth, confident facilitation during their field experience.
- Leading through Reflection: Students turn their applied learning experience into clear strengths, growth areas, and next steps for their future.

**JA Dream Accelerator** is an interactive and responsive **career exploration experience** that inspires high school students to develop a plan to pursue a meaningful career and future. The JA Dream Accelerator is located in the Denver Tech Center and available as a mobile experience. Students will:

- Analyze and examine results of an interest inventory assessment.
- Identify top career, education, and training opportunities based on personal interests and aptitudes.
- Create short- and long-term goals and next steps based on their reflections.