



The Actuarial Foundation in Partnership with Junior Achievement of Chicago Fact Sheet – Fall 2009

Junior Achievement of Chicago

Junior Achievement of Chicago is a non-profit educational organization with a purpose to educate and inspire young people to value free enterprise, business, and economics to improve the quality of their lives. Junior Achievement of Chicago is dedicated to bringing the free enterprise system to life in the classroom and reinforcing the importance of staying in school. Since its charter in 1940, Junior Achievement of Chicago has promoted economic education to students in 12 counties in the Chicagoland area.

The Actuarial Foundation

The Actuarial Foundation, a nonprofit philanthropic organization, created *Advancing Student Achievement (ASA)*, which awards grants to groups who want to implement mentor-based mathematics programs. In addition to providing generous funding, ASA provides actuaries who volunteer to work with teachers and students, enhancing not only the students' academic achievement but their appreciation for math's practical applications as well. The connection between classroom instruction and the real-world support of actuaries provides a valuable extension to any school's basic math curriculum.

The Actuarial Foundation & Junior Achievement of Chicago Partnership

Junior Achievement of Chicago works closely with the Chicago Public School system. The Actuarial Foundation's ASA mentoring program will focus on recruiting actuarial volunteers to service the CPS high schools that have requested the Junior Achievement programs that have been selected for the partnership. The high school programs selected are listed below with the volunteer weekly time commitment.

- **JA Economics for Success™** explores personal finance and students' education and career options based on their skills, interests, and values. *Six required volunteer-led activities.*
- **JA Global Marketplace™** is designed to provide practical information about the key aspects of the global economy, what makes world trade work, and how trade affects students' daily lives. *Six required volunteer-led activities.*
- **JA TITAN™** introduces critical economics and management decisions through an interactive Web-based simulation. *Eight required volunteer-led activities.*
- **JA Exploring Economics™** fosters lifelong skills and knowledge about how an economy works, including micro-, macro-, personal, and international economics. *Seven required volunteer-led activities.*
- **Junior Achievement Presents: The NEFE High School Financial Planning Program™** introduces students to the importance of making wise financial decisions. The program demonstrates the importance of planning, goal-setting, and thoughtful decision-making within the context of the personal financial decisions. *Five required volunteer-led activities.*
- **JA Banks in Action™** teaches high school students the principles of the banking industry and exposes them to the challenges of successfully operating a bank in a competitive environment. *Eight required volunteer-led activities.*

Volunteer Time Commitment

Once a volunteer decides they want to participate they need to attend a Junior Achievement training session, select a school to volunteer at from the list below, and identify the JA programs of interest. A breakdown of the time commitment is listed below.

- 1.5 hour group training session (location to be determined)
- 30-45 minutes of prep time before each JA class
- 1 hour per week for 5 to 7 weeks plus commute time to and from the school

Steps to Get Involved

- Contact **Debbie McCormac at The Actuarial Foundation: debbie.mccormac@actfnd.org or 847-706-3600**
- Attend a Junior Achievement information/training session (*dates & locations TBD*)
- Select the JA programs and high school of choice. JA will provide a list of open opportunities and assign you a teacher at the high school you've chosen at the training session.
- Contact your assigned teacher to begin the program
- Facilitate all the required activities as listed in the program description
- Complete the Volunteer Survey at the end of the class to tell us about your experience