

A VIRTUAL CAREER FAIR FOR STUDENTS



BEGINS: January 3rd 2022 ENDS: June 15th 2022

Educator Brochure

When our students know where they're going...

we all advance





JA Inspire Virtual is Junior Achievement's career development program for Middle and High School students brought to life by our region's employers.

Using virtual technology, JA Inspire Virtual 2022 features an online career event filled with business exhibits providing downloadable career information and exhibitor videos.

Available at no cost to schools, JA Inspire Virtual is adaptable for in-class, remote or distance learning!

Brief Overview

- Junior Achievement of Central Iowa's event will go live on January 3rd, 2022.
- Early December 2021, JA of Central Iowa will provide you with pre-work for your students that includes a career assessment, activities and business spotlights to get them thinking about what they might like to do after high school.
- Local businesses, within many of the 16 career clusters, will have virtual booths with career and company information, videos, pamphlets, and more. All developed by the business, just like an in-person career fair.
- Students have the opportunity to visit as many booths as they would like. They may visit businesses within their career cluster chosen through the assessment, or they may visit others that seem interesting to them.
- The students' virtual bag allows them to collect information from the booths and access it at a later date. Even better, they have access to the entire career fair for the entire 6 months that the fair is open, allowing them to share information with teachers and others at home.
- Webinars are available in the virtual auditorium on-demand. Looking for interviewing information, resume or soft skills tips? Our business partners share information and tips to all students who visit the auditorium.
- JA Inspire Virtual can be completed while in school, distance learning or while students work remotely. It's up to you.

A POWERFUL CAREER EXPLORATION EVENT



DIGITAL CAREER WORKBOOK

Students may use the JA Digital Career Workbook before, during and after attending JA Inspire Virtual. Students have access to our career assessment and use the results to plan their day at the expo. Company spotlights will display information about each exhibitor and the career cluster(s) that their booths are promoting. Included will be an index showing which companies have internships, apprenticeships, and/or hire high students.



VIRTUAL LOBBY



Students enter through the virtual lobby where they move amongst avatars to make their way to:

- Information Center: JA Staff available for questions
- Company Banners: Click on the banner to go directly to the company's career booth or website
- Auditorium: Watch webinars on career topics
- Exhibit Halls: Find company booths within the exhibit halls

VIRTUAL EXHIBIT HALLS

Students move through the virtual exhibit halls visiting companies that are of interest to them.

There is an exhibitor index that allows students to easily find companies by name. Or, scroll through the businesses, stopping by to visit and get information.



VIRTUAL BOOTHS



Students visit booths that have videos, pamphlets, flyers, pictures, and career stories. Topics may include: "A day in the life of an employee"; "What I wanted to do in 8th grade and how I got where I am now"; resume tips and education needed for jobs at the company.

Students are able to add provided information to their virtual bag and revisit it after they leave the fair. Students are able to reenter the fair, up to the last day of the event, and can share with other students, teachers, and adults at home.

VIRTUAL AUDITORIUM

Students can stop in the auditorium throughout the day to watch webinars produced by the vendors. Topics include: interviewing, resumes, entrepreneurship, soft skills, and more.





Being a JA Inspire Virtual attendee offers you the opportunity to seek information about certain careers, industries and career clusters. Students who visit JA Inspire Virtual will complete preparatory curriculum that will allow them to learn about their strengths and interests that could lead them to fulfilling careers.

Who should attend?

We suggest students in 7th or 8th grade participate, however High school students are also welcome. The benefit and growth is valuable for all.

How long is the virtual career fair?

While students could visit for less time, we suggest at least 2 hours to get the most out of the fair.

Will there be any type of curriculum during the fair?

Yes. A downloadable workbook will be available to each school. Students may use the workbook during the virtual career fair. The actual experience is self-guided. Students should visit exhibit halls and the auditorium.

How do the students get access to the event?

Two ways - School may provide us the emails or JA will assign and send you log in information prior to the event.

What pre-work is available?

JA will provide the school with downloadable career assessments and other tools to evaluate the students' interests and how they relate to those who are in different careers.

Is there a set schedule for?

No. However, we suggest students visit the booths in the morning and once finished, attend the webinars in the virtual auditorium. Students may revisit booths as needed. The workbook allows students to map their course before their experience.

How will students access the information gathered after the event?

Students will be given a virtual bag. They can add pamphlets, flyers and other information to their virtual bag and email it to themselves. Students are also able to return to the career fair until June 15, 2022.

Technology concerns?

Check with your school's technology department for any firewalls that may deny access for teachers and students.



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