

# A CAREER EXPLORATION FAIR FOR STUDENTS



FEBRUARY 2022 - MAY 2022

**Educator Brochure** 

Rev: 10/2021

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

# we all advance





JA Inspire is Junior Achievement's career development program for 8th grade students brought to life by our region's employers, with potential recorded involvement with high school students.

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

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

### **Brief Overview**

- The virtual career exploration fair will be available to all 8th-12th grade students for a 90-day window of opportunity from February 2022 through May 2022.
- Early December 2021, JA of Oklahoma 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, many within 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 exploration fair for the entire 90 days that the fair is open, allowing them to share information with teachers and others at home.
- Webinars are available in the virtual auditorium throughout the day. 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 can be completed while in school, distance learning or while students work remotely. It's up to you.

# A POWERFUL CAREER EXPLORATION FAIR



#### JA DIGITAL CAREER BOOK

Students may use the JA Digital Career Book before, during and after attending JA Inspire. This site helps students see how their interests align to different careers and career paths.



#### VIRTUAL LOBBY



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

- <u>Information Center</u>: Contains FAQ to answer your questions
- <u>Company Banners</u>: Click on the banner to go directly to the company's career booth or website
- <u>Auditorium</u>: Watch webinars on career topics
- <u>Exhibit Halls</u>: 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 attendee offers you the opportunity to seek information about certain careers, industries and career clusters. Students who visit JA Inspire 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 all students in 8th grade participate, but the fair is available for all middle and high school students. The benefit and growth is valuable for all.

#### How long is the career exploration fair?

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

#### **ICAP** Requirement

This program helps fulfill the Oklahoma State ICAP requirements.

## Will there be any type of curriculum during the fair?

Yes. A downloadable workbook will be available to each school. The actual experience is self-guided. Students should visit exhibit halls and auditorium.

## How do the students get access to the virtual 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?

As stated previoulsy, a downloadable workbook will be available to each school.

## Will we know which companies will be in attendance prior to event?

Yes. You can view our exhibitors on the <u>JAOK Inspire website</u>.

#### Is there a set schedule for day?

No. However, we suggest planning a full week toutilize the site. Students may revisit booths throughout the week. The workbook allows students to map their course before the day begins. \*\*Please advise the JA office what week you plan to access the virtual site.

# 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 it will be available to them after their visit. Students are able to return to the website through the end of the school year.

#### **Technology concerns?**

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



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