

Junior Achievement Fact Sheet

Purpose Statement

Junior Achievement educates and inspires young people to value free enterprise, business and economics to improve the quality of their lives and help prepare them for success in tomorrow's workplace.

Overview

Junior Achievement programs teach students about business and economics to prepare young people for workplace opportunities. Junior Achievement builds partnerships between the business and education communities to provide the curriculum and volunteers who serve as role models to the students.

More than 35,000 students actively participated in Junior Achievement programs in 201 schools and organizations throughout Cuyahoga, Lake & Geauga counties during the 2003-2004 school year. There is a great opportunity to reach even more young people; demand exceeds supply.

Junior Achievement provides 18 separate, sequential programs for students in kindergarten through twelfth grade. In the elementary grades, students learn about needs vs. wants, different types of jobs, and money & banking. Middle grades students study budgeting, job interviewing, saving & investing. In high school, students try their hand at entrepreneurship, writing business plans and financial management.

Junior Achievement programs are funded through contributions from businesses, individuals, foundations and special event fund-raisers. We are not a United Way agency.

Facts

- JA of Greater Cleveland will provide programs to more than 37,000 students in approximately 200 schools in Cuyahoga, Lake & Geauga counties during the 2004-2005 school year.
- The 2004-2005 budget is approximately \$880,000.
- More than 3,000 local businesses, foundations, organizations and individuals provide funding through annual campaigns, special projects and fundraising events.
- Over 4,000 local business people, community members and schoolteachers are involved annually as classroom participants and/or fundraising volunteers.
- 43% of all classes were in 56 Cleveland Municipal Schools in the 2003-2004 school year.
- The Greater Cleveland office has been in operation since 1941.

Benefits

- Students gain a better understanding of the business world and receive realistic exposure to various career opportunities.
- Schools have an opportunity to form meaningful partnerships with area businesses.
- Teachers learn about and gain an increased appreciation of business.
- Volunteers have an opportunity to "give something back" to the community.
- Volunteers share personal experiences, success stories and information about their employer.
- Sponsoring companies and organizations have an opportunity to invest in the future workforce of Cleveland.