

JA Finance Park Volunteer FAQs

What do volunteers do at JA Finance Park?

- Facilitate and mentor a group of 4-8 students at their assigned budget topic area
- Pass out and collect tablets and other materials when instructed
- Facilitate group discussions
- Give out tablet codes when instructed by JA Staff or indicated in Guide
- Monitor and verify students' work progress

How long is the volunteer day?

Typically the day is four and a half to five hours, depending on the length the school can attend.

Do I need to know how to operate an iPad to help students?

No. Volunteers will not be using a tablet during the simulation. At the onsite training we will show you what the simulation will look like for the students. Generally, students have little difficulty in operating the tablets and JA Staff is always here to assist when problems arise.

Do I need to be an expert on creating a budget to help students?

No. Our [Volunteer Guide](#) is set up for you to read it word-for-word for each activity. Please review it before your volunteer day. We do encourage volunteers to share, if comfortable, details about their own financial journey to help students understand the importance of personal financial literacy.

Do I need to be an expert in my budget topic area to help the students?

No. Each budget topic area has a specific [Research Script](#) that you can read from during the Research Phase. This is to help guide you in the discussion with each student group. If you were given your assigned area ahead of time, please review it before your volunteer day. Otherwise, you will have time before the students arrive to review it.

What have students already learned about before coming to JA Finance Park?

Students will have completed 13 lessons with their teacher(s) on personal finance topics, including Banking, Benefits, Budgets, Buying, Careers, Choices, Consumers, Credit, Debt, Expenses, Income, Interest rates, Investments, Government, Money, Needs, Wants, Opportunity costs, Risk, Salary, Saving, Savings, Scarcity, Social Security, Taxes, and Wages.

What topics will students learn about at JA Finance Park?

Transportation, Housing, Savings, Gas and Maintenance, Auto and Home Insurance, Phone, Internet, Dining Out, Philanthropy, Grocery, Investment, Utilities, Health Insurance, That's Life, Entertainment, Child Care, Education, Clothing, Credit Cards, Mortgage

Is there food available in JA Finance Park for volunteers?

There is coffee available, but no vending machines or lunch provided. Please bring your own lunch and beverage, if desired. There is a volunteer break room with tables, chairs, refrigerator and microwave available for you to use during the lunch break.

Can I get outside work done while I am in JA Finance Park?

We are expecting you to give your full attention to the students while you are here as a volunteer. If this is not possible for you, please reconsider volunteering with us. Also, please be fully engaged with students the entire day and keep time on your phone to a minimum.