

High School Student Guide: JA Career Speakers Series

Junior Achievement empowers young people to own their economic success. In *JA Career Speakers Series*, you will learn how to prepare for a career in the world of work. JA volunteers will provide information about their career, work, and education experience. Before participating, we recommend researching the volunteer's company and/or career field. After you participate, there are additional lessons to continue the learning. Enjoy and happy planning for TOMORROW!

Follow the guide below.

Suggestions Before Participating in the Workshop

1. Research the speaker's company or organization. Note any interesting facts you discover.
2. Search suggestions: company website, online searches for the speaker and company, interview friends and family to see what they know about the company
3. Before you listen to the speaker, consider your own vision. Think about:
 - **What do I like?**
 - Hobbies? Favorite entertainment or school subjects?
 - **What am I good at?**
 - Tasks that I find easy? Awards I've won? Classes I do well in?
 - **What jobs might I like?**
 - Jobs of adults I know? Jobs I've seen on TV or in movies? Jobs I think could be needed in the future?
 - **Want more information on planning for your future?**
 - Visit the JA My Way for more info at <https://www.jamyway.org/>

While you listen to the Speaker

Consider some of these questions while you listen to the speaker and make notes. The speaker may or may not answer all of the questions.

- What does a typical day look like for them?
- What is the salary range for someone in their position?
- How long have they been in their field? Is schooling or special training/certification required?
- How many days a week do they work? How many hours per day?
- Do they travel for work? If so, when, where, and how often?
- Do they work with a team? What's that like?
- What skills are necessary to perform their job?
- What do they enjoy the most about their job? What can be challenging about their job?
- What role does their position play within the organization/company?
- Knowing what they know now, as they reflect on their early schooling, is there anything they wish they would have focused more on?

- What kind of challenges arise in their role? How do they resolve them?
- How are their skills transferrable to a different field?
- Have they made any career changes? If so, how many?
- How are they a leader in their role?

After you participate in the Career Speaker Workshop

Here are a few things for you to consider doing after participating in the workshop.

- Topics you'd like to further investigate on your own at a later time
- Reflect on what you've learned
- Note the two most interesting or important ideas you and during the event