

JA FINANCE PARK®

VOLUNTEER FACTS



- What is the difference between debit and credit?
- How do I budget for personal expenses?
- Why is savings important?
- How much money do I need to earn to support myself?

To participate as a **JA Finance Park** volunteer mentor, please contact:

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Today's young people need a strong foundation for making intelligent, lifelong, personal financial decisions. As a volunteer with **JA Finance Park**, you will help students navigate the world of personal finances as they assume the role of an "adult for the day."

At **JA Finance Park**, students are given a unique life profile after answering a series of future lifestyle questions. Their life profile includes an income, marital status, even kids! Using this new adult persona, students work to create a balanced monthly budget while making decision regarding housing, transportation, insurance, savings, entertainment expenses and much more.

Volunteers are needed to mentor small groups of students throughout their day at **JA Finance Park**. **No special budgeting expertise or preparation is necessary and thorough training is provided for all volunteers!**



A Typical Day in Finance Park

8:00 – 9:00am	Volunteer Training
9:00am	School arrival
9:10 – 9:30am	Welcome and Orientation
9:30 – 10:15am	Set up and Savings <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Students go to their assigned business to meet their volunteer.• Check out an iPad from their volunteer.• Discover the adult identity they will assume.
10:15 – 11:30am	Research <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Students and volunteers will visit each business and read and discuss information for each budget category.
11:30am – 12:30pm	The Budget (and Lunch Break) <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Students build a monthly budget, informed by their research and volunteer discussion.• Volunteers & students take a 30 minute lunch break.
12:30 – 1:10pm	Shopping <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Students visit each business on their iPad to make their shopping selections.
1:10 – 1:45pm	Payment <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Students visit each storefront in JA Finance Park to pay for all their shopping selections.
1:45 – 2:00 pm	Debrief & Closing <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Students receive a final report that details their life scenario and Decisions.• Students return their iPad to the volunteer.

(continued on reverse)

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Volunteer Frequently Asked Questions

What is JA Finance Park?

JA Finance Park is an indoor experiential learning complex where students come to gain “real world” financial education experience via an “adult for a day” simulation.

Where is JA Finance Park located?

JA Finance Park is centrally located in Los Angeles (bordering Burbank, and Studio City) off Highway 134 between Mt. Sinai and Forest Lawn Cemeteries, on the edge of Griffith Park. Plenty of parking is available for volunteers.

How long is the JA Finance Park experience?

The **JA Finance Park** experience lasts approximately a full day of instruction for students, or about six hours of volunteer time.

What is considered proper attire for volunteering at JA Finance Park?

Students will be looking up to you during your time volunteering at **JA Finance Park**, so dress to impress and inspire in business casual or appropriate company attire.

Is food available for volunteers?

JASoCal offers coffee and water for our volunteers and we have vending machines available. We recommend packing a lunch which you can enjoy during the day’s lunch break.

Can we volunteer in JA Finance Park for a few hours or only part of the day?

We expect that volunteers commit to stay through the entire scheduled simulation. Each volunteer works with a small group of students throughout their visit to **JA Finance Park**. We want each student to have support throughout the simulation to ensure their successful completion.

Do I need to have experience teaching kids, or be an expert at math or finances?

All volunteers will go through a thorough one-hour training on the same day as their scheduled volunteer session. All necessary information and supplies will be provided at this time. No previous experience is required, however, basic usage knowledge of an iPad is needed.

Can we cater a lunch for the volunteers in a separate room during our lunch break?

Many groups choose to cater lunch for their volunteers and often offer to sponsor lunch for the students as well. Groups are welcome to cater lunch, however please be aware that there is only 30 minutes allotted for lunch within the simulation. While it is possible to have a separate lunch area, most groups prefer to eat with the students. All catered lunches should be coordinated by the individual volunteer groups. **JA Finance Park** does not provide lunch or coordinate lunch arrangements.

How many students will I be working with?

Volunteers will work with an average of 6-12 students.