



Volunteering With Junior Achievement® as a Supply Chain Champion

Volunteering with Junior Achievement (JA) gives you the opportunity to share information not only from the JA curriculum, but also about your experience working in the supply chain. There are few better ways to reach young people with the message that the supply chain offers careers that are fast-paced, challenging, diverse, ever-changing and rewarding.

Most students that you encounter will know almost nothing about what a supply chain is or of the multitude of jobs available in the sector. As a JA “mentor,” you will have a chance to give them a brief overview and introduce them to a slice of the supply chain. Your story will give them something concrete to recall when they’re considering career options, whenever that may happen.

Including the Supply Chain Message in Your Presentation

To prepare you to deliver a JA program, you will receive training from JA specific to the program requirements. You’ll get a program guide and participate in a training session, during which key items from the guidebook will be highlighted. You’ll learn about the core activities that comprise the program and serve as the framework for your presentation. Your program kit will also include workbooks, games and certificates for the students, and a second program guide for the classroom teacher.

The value that you’ll add to the program is in describing how the subject matter applies to your work in the supply chain. How do you make use of the tool or formula you’ve just talked about? Real-life examples – stories – will demonstrate to students the relevance and importance of a topic in a way they’re likely to remember. And, they’ll give you an opportunity to expose the students to the world of the supply chain, to let them know of the career options that exist in this area.

Although you’ll be following the JA program curriculum, you are encouraged to make use of some of the Council’s resources during your time in the classroom. The following items could be particularly helpful to you:

- The Council’s three-minute “Welcome to the Supply Chain” introductory video
- A supply chain career chart, which shows the depth and breadth of careers in the sector
- A list of the 120 real job titles available in a single transport company
- The Education and Training Compendium of supply chain offerings across Canada
- The Careers in the Supply Chain website

These resources and others can be accessed from the Council’s JA webpage, at www.supplychaincanada.org/en/JA-Canada.

In addition, depending on the program that you are delivering, you may also find it useful to provide the students with information about your company.

All of the JA programs are designed to be easy to deliver, especially if you are passionate about your work. You’ll have program materials to serve as a framework for your discussion; drawing on your experience and expertise will give you the substance you need to make it interesting.