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## About Future Bound by Junior Achievement

### What's new at Future Bound?

Future Bound is Junior Achievement's culminating student event designed to inspire and empower the next generation of leaders with the skills and knowledge needed to succeed in today's dynamic world. It features immersive learning experiences that connect students with mentors, industry professionals, and real-world opportunities.

All new this year, Future Bound will include top JA students from across the country as they compete in JA's four national competitions: JA Company of the Year, JA Social Innovation Challenge, JA Stock Market Challenge, and JA Titan Challenge - showcasing students' knowledge of essential financial literacy concepts, entrepreneurial thinking, and career exploration, preparing them for the future with hands-on tools and actionable knowledge.

### When and where does Future Bound take place?

Future Bound will take place from June 8–12, 2025 at Georgia State University in Atlanta, GA. June 8 and 12 are travel days. The actual event, including the competitions and other experiences, will take place June 9–11. Lodging and most of the sessions and events will take place on the Georgia State University campus. More information can be found at [studentevents.ja.org](https://studentevents.ja.org). Specific locations and session details will be shared with participants in mid-May.

### Who is eligible to participate?

The following requirements on eligibility, age, and the number of students per team, per event are to ensure fairness in all aspects of the competitions. JA USA will make no exceptions to this requirement. JA Areas should work with volunteers and teachers to determine the most equitable way to determine student representation.

Students representing their companies or teams in the competitions must have been enrolled in high school during the 2024-2025 school year. Middle school students or students who graduated prior to 2025 will automatically be asked to withdraw from the competition.

Guidelines specific to each competition are as follows:

#### **JA Company of the Year Competition:**

JA Companies must have been active during the 2024-2025 school year to be eligible to participate. JA Companies must have participated in *JA Company Program*®, *JA Fellows*, or other JA USA approved variation, and must have followed the JA Program Implementation Standards which include:

- Completion of the full curriculum;
- A community volunteer or educator has taught the minimum number of Instructional Contact Hours;
- Submission and approval of the Product Approval Application



JA Area staff can submit eligible student companies for consideration. 15 finalists will be selected and invited to Future Bound. A minimum of three (3) and a maximum of five (5) students are allowed to represent their student company at the JA Company of the Year Competition. Student representatives are not limited to company officers.

### **JA Social Innovation Challenge**

Competitors must have participated in *JA Be Entrepreneurial*, *JA Entrepreneurial Mindset*, *JA Company Program*, or *3DE 11<sup>th</sup> grade* during the 2024-2025 school year.

JA Area staff can submit eligible student companies for consideration. 15 finalists will be selected and invited to Future Bound. A minimum of two (2) and a maximum of four (4) students are allowed to represent their student team at the JA Social Innovation Challenge.

### **National JA Stock Market Challenge**

The National JA Stock Market Challenge is open to high school students who compete in a local JA Area's *JA Stock Market Challenge* and/or high school students who participate in a *JA Take Stock in Your Future* classroom learning experience during the 2024-2025 school year.

JA Area staff can register up to three (3) eligible teams to participate at Future Bound. A minimum of two (2) and a maximum of four (4) students are allowed per team at the National JA Stock Market Challenge.

### **National JA Titan Challenge**

The National JA Titan Competition is open to high school students who have participated in *JA Titan* during the 2024-2025 school year.

JA Area staff can register up to three (3) eligible teams to participate at Future Bound. A minimum of two (2) and a maximum of four (4) students are allowed per team at the National JA Titan Challenge.

## **Why should JA Areas participate?**

Participation in Future Bound is an exceptional opportunity for students. Future Bound is an authentic learning experience that allows students to engage in all JA has to offer, while also increasing awareness and national exposure for the JA Areas. Through immersive experiences, students will engage with mentors and industry professionals, gaining real-world insights and critical skills around money, jobs, and entrepreneurship. Future Bound provides young people with the tools they need to navigate their futures with confidence and success along with the opportunity to compete for prizes, scholarships and recognition on the national stage.

This event brings together students, educators, and industry leaders to explore hands-on learning experiences, unlock new career pathways, and gain the skills needed to thrive in the ever-evolving world of work. Prepare to be inspired, empowered, and Future Bound!

## What is the cost?

### What is the cost to attend?

Students and chaperones are responsible for all transportation and shipping costs to and from Atlanta, GA, as well as any personal incidentals.

Once in Atlanta, participants are supported by a JA USA scholarship to attend Future Bound. This scholarship covers the cost associated with lodging, meals, and JA USA-organized activities for:

- Up to five (5) students and one (1) adult chaperone for each JA Company of the Year team
- Up to four (4) students and one (1) adult chaperone for each JA Social Innovation Challenge, National JA Stock Market Challenge, and National JA Titan Competition team.

Costs covered by JA USA include:

- Travel to and from the Atlanta airport to the GSU campus;
- Lodging in the GSU campus suites (including linens);
- And all meals, beginning with breakfast on Monday, June 9 and ending with the awards dinner on Wednesday, June 11

Any costs above and beyond what is listed above are the responsibility of the participants and/or JA Area.

### What other costs might participants need to consider?

Participants may need to consider additional costs related to team materials and other incidental expenses. Expenses to consider may include, but are not limited to: printing (banners, signs, copies of reports, postcards, brochures, etc.), transport of booth materials (checked luggage or shipping), attire, incidental expenses (snacks, tourism, etc.), dinner on Sunday/breakfast on Thursday.

- COY and SIC competitors should consider what materials they will need for the Entrepreneurial Expo and presentations.
- JA Stock Market Challenge and JA Titan competitors will be provided with the necessary technology for competition and are not required to bring their own devices or any materials for competition.

## Chaperones and Guests

### What is the chaperone's responsibility/role?

Each participating team is required to have one chaperone. Chaperones are required to sign and to adhere to all requirements listed in the Chaperone Responsibility Form and must agree to supervise students at all times during their stay in Atlanta, GA. Chaperones are expected to ensure student compliance with all matters related to safety, attendance, and code of conduct, and facilitate a fun and engaging student experience. Chaperones must be willing and able to perform their obligations at all



times, including traveling to and from Atlanta, GA with their students, coordinating airport shuttle transportation, knowing where their students are at all times, and taking part in all sessions and events on the agenda in which their attendance is requested.

## Who qualifies as a chaperone?

Chaperones must be at least 25 years of age at the time of the competition and able to travel to and from the event with their students. Team chaperones are responsible for their students at all times. Chaperones are responsible for ensuring the JA Area has all necessary permission slips and a signed copy of the Volunteer Conduct Standards on file. Chaperones will be required to submit to a background check prior to the event. Because of the need for highly engaged and responsible chaperones, JA Area staff should take the lead in determining the right fit.

## Where will chaperones stay?

Chaperones will stay in the campus suites on the GSU campus. Chaperones will be in a suite near the student rooms but will not be in the same room as a student. There are two private bedrooms per suite with a shared common area. A virtual tour can be found here: <https://www.tours.vividmediany.com/3d-model/piedmont-central-2br-1ba-shared-suite/fullscreen/>

## Can more than one chaperone attend?

No. JA USA will cover the housing, meals, and organized activity costs for only one chaperone per team

Each JA Area, however, is invited to register up to two additional Guests to attend Future Bound. The Guest registration is available ONLY for additional JA staff, volunteers, or educators associated with the student company or team. This registration includes participation in all JA USA organized activities and meals. Lodging is not included. Registration, completion of a background check, and a \$450 fee are required no later than Friday, May 16.

## Are other guests from a JA Area allowed to attend in addition to students and one chaperone?

JA USA recognizes that JA staff, volunteers, educators, or team supporters may be interested in attending Future Bound. There are two ways to attend the event.

1. Public Events – Four events, The Entrepreneurship Expo, Company Presentations, National JA Stock Market Challenge, and National JA Titan Challenge are open to the general public. Exact times and locations will be shared with participants in mid-May. No registration is required to attend public events.
2. Public Events with Gala – In addition to attending the public events, guests may also attend the Gala Awards Dinner which will occur in the evening of Wednesday, June 11. Registration and a ticket purchase of \$200 is required by no later than Friday, May 16.

## JA Area Responsibility

### What is the responsibility of the JA Area?

JA Area staff are responsible for sharing information about Future Bound with student companies and teams, gathering company and team deliverables, and submitting required information via [studentevents.ja.org](http://studentevents.ja.org), including team submissions and registrations. JA Area staff serve as the direct link between the JA USA competition staff, the students and chaperone. Because of the need for highly engaged and responsible chaperones, JA Area staff should take the lead in determining the right fit.

### What are important submission deadlines for JA Areas to keep in mind?

Each competition has its own submission criteria and registration requirements. JA Areas should facilitate competition submissions and registrations with their teams. Deadlines are as follows:

#### **JA Company of the Year Competition and JA Social Innovation Challenge:**

Submissions due Friday, May 2, 2025 by 4:00 pm ET. 15 finalists for both JA Company of the Year and JA Social Innovation Challenge will be selected. If your student company is selected as a finalist, the JA Area will register the student company and work with JA USA to ensure that their students and chaperone complete and submit the required information provided by JA USA no later than Friday, May 16, 2025 by 4:00 pm ET.

#### **National JA Stock Market Challenge and National JA Titan Challenge**

Team submissions due Friday, May 2, 2025 by 4:00 pm ET. Each JA Area may register up to three (3) eligible teams to compete. Satellite or District offices are considered part of the overarching JA Area and should work with their JA Area office to determine team participation and eligibility. Once a team is registered, they are considered finalists and expected to attend. There is no additional vetting from JA USA. Upon team registration, the JA Area staff will work with JA USA to ensure that their students and chaperone complete and submit the required information provided by JA USA no later than Friday, May 16, 2025 by 4:00 pm ET.

## Travel

### How do participants make travel reservations?

Travel arrangements are coordinated by the chaperone and JA Area to ensure the students and chaperone are traveling together. Finalists will receive additional information closer to the event.

### Can participants arrive late or leave early from the event?

No. All participants are expected to travel together with their chaperone to and from the event on the recommended travel days and are expected to attend all sessions and activities. This means participants





are not permitted to arrive early or late or leave early or late from Future Bound. Additionally, chaperones are required to travel to and from the event with their students. JA USA only covers the cost of accommodations during the event.

### Can a student extend their trip?

No. As participants, students are not allowed to extend the length of the trip. All students are required to travel with their designated chaperone to and from the scheduled event.

### Can students or chaperones go off-site to meet friends or family?

No. Chaperones and students are required to attend all competition activities and are not permitted to go off-site to meet with family and friends during the competition.

## Miscellaneous

### What should COY and SIC participants expect at the Student Expo?

*Details are still being finalized; any deviation from the details provided here will be shared with companies and teams prior to the competition. Curious to see what the Student Expo looks like? Check out photos from last year's Student Expo [here](#).*

#### **Company of the Year:**

Each company will be provided a table, with a black tablecloth, to hold materials or to display products. No backdrop or pipe and drape will be provided. Companies may bring their own branded tablecloth, and they may create a free-standing floor display as long as it is within the booth parameters. All Expo items must fit within the booth area due to space limitations with no exceptions.

#### **Social Innovation Challenge:**

Each team will be provided a round table, with a black tablecloth, to hold materials or displays. No backdrop or pipe and drape will be provided. Companies may bring their own branded tablecloth, and they may create a free-standing floor display as long as it is within the booth parameters. All Expo items must fit within the booth area due to space limitations with no exceptions. Students are not required to illustrate a prototype, but they are welcome to do so.

### What should JA Stock Market Challenge participants expect at the competition?

The National JA Stock Market Challenge will feature a brand new market scenario. The competition will be 90 minutes, 90 days, and 60 seconds per day. The team with the highest net worth at the end of that 90 days will be the winner.



Ahead of the competition, each team will be provided the stock list and official competition guidelines. Teams will be required to create a starting portfolio.

During competition:

- Each team will have their own table. Chairs will be provided upon request.
- All trades must be made through Floor Traders. Teams will not be permitted to use their own devices;
- Newsletters and Alerts will be obtained from News Runners;
- Teams will have an opportunity to obtain five (5) printed copies of their portfolios throughout the 90 days of competition at the designated Print Stations;
- Use of cell phones will not be permitted;
- Teams are not permitted to bring any notes with them for competition play.

## What should JA Titan Challenge participants expect at the competition?

The National JA Titan Challenge will feature two rounds of play and teams will participate in both rounds of play. Each quarter will be five-minutes long. The winner will be determined by the highest number of total victory currencies after both rounds of play.

During competition:

- Each team will have their own table and chairs;
- Each team will be provided with a device for competition play. Teams will not be permitted to use their own devices;
- Use of cell phones will not be permitted;
- Teams are not permitted to bring any notes with them for competition play.

## What if there is a medical emergency?

Once on-site, JA USA staff will connect participants with the necessary medical services, including medical and dental care at the expense of the participant.

## Can students schedule their own tours in Atlanta, GA?

After registering and checking into the Future Bound event, students may have an opportunity on Sunday, June 8 for tours and exploring in Atlanta at their own expense. Students must remain with their team, and chaperones must be present.

## Is there a dress code?

Check out suggested dress here: <https://data.ja.org/s/5ToAAA>