

Using JA Finance Park™ Online – Volunteer Information



Thank you for helping out during the students' experience with Junior Achievement's JA Finance Park program.

JA Finance Park is a personal finance curriculum where students learn about financial institutions, savings, investing, and spending. The focal point of the curriculum is budgeting. For the past few weeks, the students have been working through a curriculum that leads to this budgeting exercise.

During the online exercise, students will receive a fictional life situation that spells out their gross annual income, age, marital status, and number of children. They use this information to make choices in seventeen budget categories ranging from housing to transportation to groceries to entertainment and much more.

They will also encounter the consequences of using credit by choosing Home Improvement and Furniture packages. When they make a choice, they will see how long it will take them to pay off their choice and how much interest it will cost.

Students see the ups or downs of the stock market by calculating the opening stock prices on a portfolio of five stocks.

Your Role in the Simulation

The volunteer at JA Finance Park and during the online experience is there to help the students in several ways.

1. Help to keep the students on task.
2. Help guide the students in the use of the program.
3. Help students with math questions.
4. Share personal experiences with regard to making choices.
 - One example is to suggest that a student whose life situation states that they have a spouse and two children may not want to choose a sports car during the Transportation decision.



You can access the simulation and receive the same experience as the students. It will take about 30-45 minutes of your time to see what the students will see. You don't have to complete the simulation, but it will be helpful get through (at least) the Furniture choice. Ask your child's teacher for the codes (or contact JA of Mississippi Valley using the e-mail or phone below.).

Teacher PIN _____
Student PIN _____

If you have questions, please contact us at jafinancepark@jastl.org or 636-728-0707.

How Students Use JA Finance Park Online

Open Internet Explorer, and begin by going to www.jafp.org

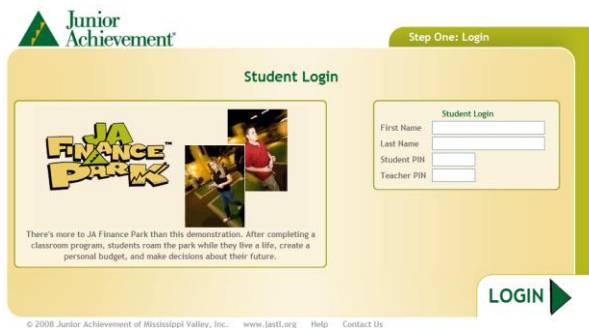
NOTE: Students may want to use their own calculator instead of the one provided on computer.



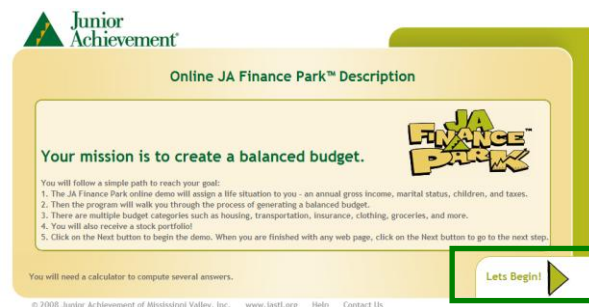
On the drop-down menu, choose:
St. Louis Area



Students read the starting page and then click on **“Students click here to begin”**



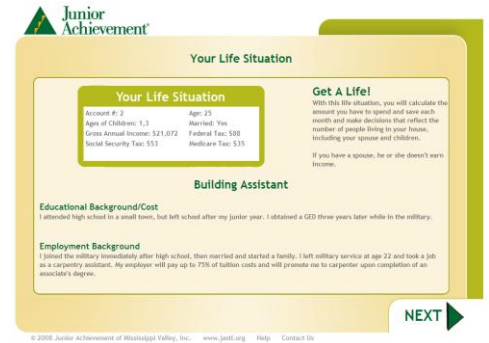
They should enter the Login information:
First Name
Last Name
Student PIN (received from teacher)
Teacher PIN (received from teacher)



Read the mission and **“Let’s Begin!”**

Your Life Situation describes their income, job, and education. It will give them an idea about why they earn this gross annual income.

Click Next to continue.



Your Life Situation

Account #: 2 Age: 25
Ages of Children: 1, 3 Married: Yes
Gross Annual Income: \$21,072 Federal Tax: \$0
Social Security Tax: \$3 Medicare Tax: \$35

Get A Life!
With this situation, you will calculate the amount you have to spend and save each month and make decisions that reflect the number of people living in your home, including your spouse and children.
If you have a spouse, he or she doesn't earn income.

Building Assistant
Educational Background/Cost
I attended high school in a small town, but left school after my junior year. I obtained a GED three years later while in the military.

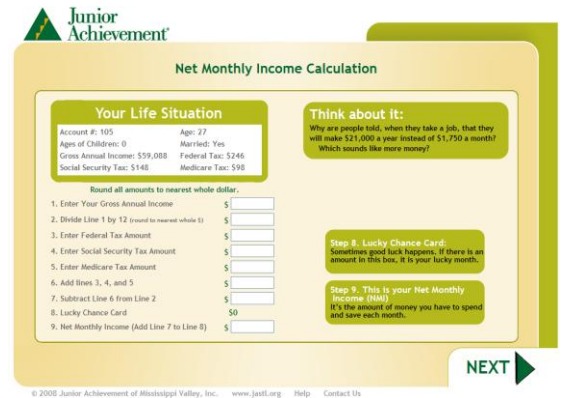
Employment Background
I joined the military immediately after high school, then married and started a family. I left military service at age 22 and took a job as a carpentry assistant. My employer will pay up to 75% of tuition costs and will promote me to carpenter upon completion of an associate's degree.

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Net Monthly Income (NMI): Students calculate NMI. This is how much you actually will have to spend during the program.

Did they receive a Lucky Change Card – extra money for your budget?

The software won't let the student advance if they make a mistake in their calculations. Try again.



Net Monthly Income Calculation

Your Life Situation

Account #: 105 Age: 27
Ages of Children: 0 Married: Yes
Gross Annual Income: \$59,008 Federal Tax: \$246
Social Security Tax: \$148 Medicare Tax: \$98

Think about it:
Why are people told, when they take a job, that they will make \$21,000 a year instead of \$1,750 a month? Which sounds like more money?

Round all amounts to nearest whole dollar.

- Enter Your Gross Annual Income \$
- Divide Line 1 by 12 (round to nearest whole \$)
- Enter Federal Tax Amount \$
- Enter Social Security Tax Amount \$
- Enter Medicare Tax Amount \$
- Add lines 3, 4, and 5 \$
- Subtract Line 6 from Line 2 \$
- Lucky Change Card \$0
- Net Monthly Income (Add Line 7 to Line 8) \$

Step 8: Lucky Change Card
If there is an amount in this box, it is your lucky month.

Step 9: This is your Net Monthly Income (NMI)
It's the amount of money you have to spend and save each month.

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Housing Option

Your Life Situation

Account #: 105 Age: 27
Ages of Children: 0 Married: Yes
Gross Annual Income: \$59,008 Federal Tax: \$246
Social Security Tax: \$148 Medicare Tax: \$98
Your Net Monthly Income is: \$4,432

Think about it:
In your house, how many bedrooms do you need?

Housing Option
People normally spend between 18% and 24% of their Net Monthly Income on Housing. Choose a housing option that reflects your family situation and the amount of money you have to spend within this percentage guideline.

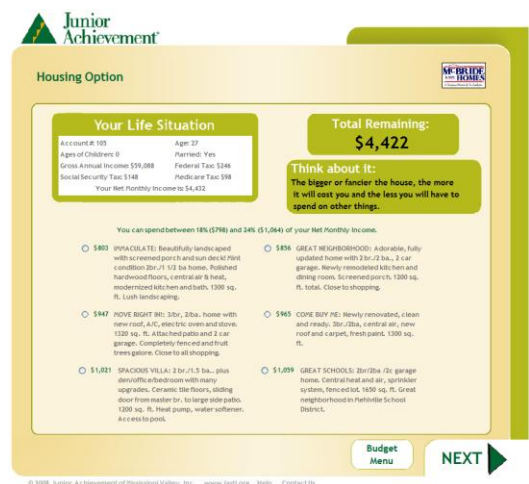
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Spending Options: Most pages include a description of the budget category and then continue to the decision page.

Students make decision(s) by following the directions and click “Next”.

Some forms may include calculations to complete.

The software won't let the student advance if they make a mistake in their calculations. Try again.



Housing Option

Your Life Situation

Account #: 105 Age: 27
Ages of Children: 0 Married: Yes
Gross Annual Income: \$59,008 Federal Tax: \$246
Social Security Tax: \$148 Medicare Tax: \$98
Your Net Monthly Income is: \$4,432

Total Remaining: \$4,422

Think about it:
The bigger or fancier the house, the more it will cost you and the less you will have to spend on other things.

You can spend between 18% (\$798) and 24% (\$1,064) of your Net Monthly Income.

- 1803 IPPACISLATE: Beautifully landscaped with screened porch and sun deck. Pool condition. 3br/1.5 ba home. Polished hardwood floors, central air & heat, modernized kitchen and baths. 1300 sq. ft. Look, lovely landscaping.
- 1547 MOVE RIGHT IN: 3br/2ba, home with new roof, A/C, electric oven and stove. 1200 sq. ft. Attached patio and 2 car garage. Completely fenced and fruit trees galore. Close to all shopping.
- 11021 SPACIOUS VILLA: 3 br/1.5 ba., plus beautiful landscaping with many upgrades. Ceramic tile floors, sliding door from master dr. to large side patio. 1300 sq. ft. Heat pump, water softener, access to pool.
- 856 GREAT NEIGHBORHOOD: Adorable, fully updated home with 3br/2ba, 2 car garage. Newly renovated kitchen and dining room. Screened porch. 1200 sq. ft. Look. Close to shopping.
- 545 COVE BUY ME: Newly renovated, clean and ready. 3br/2ba, central air, new roof and carpet, fresh paint. 1300 sq. ft.
- 11099 GREAT SCHOOLS: 3br/2ba/1 1/2 car garage. Central air and air, sprinkler system, fenced lot. 1800 sq. ft. Great neighborhood in Periwinkle School District.

Budget Menu **Next**

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Transportation Option

LOU EUSZ
AUTOMOTIVE NETWORK

Your Life Situation

Account #: 105 Age: 27
Ages of Children: 0 Married: Yes
Gross Annual Income: \$59,088 Federal Tax: \$246
Social Security Tax: \$148 Medicare Tax: \$98
Your Net Monthly Income is: \$4,432

Total Remaining:
\$3,230

Think about it:
How many people are in your family?
How many can fit in your car?

Total Remaining: The software provides a running total of how much students have left to allocate into their budget.

You can use the “**Think about it!**” items to help guide their understanding of the decisions they face.

Water/Sewer/Trash

IMPORTANT NOTE: All calculations must be rounded to the nearest whole number.

- .49 cents and below, round down to current dollar (6.23 = 6)
- .50 cents and above, round up to next dollar (14.65 = 15)

Your Life Situation

Account #: 1 Age: 25
Ages of Children: 1 Married: No
Gross Annual Income: \$36,133 Federal Tax: \$154
Social Security Tax: \$92 Medicare Tax: \$41
Your Net Monthly Income is: \$2,764

Directions:
Complete items below for drinking, bathing, cleaning, and many other things. Calculate your water usage and cost below.

You can spend between 1% (\$32) and 1% (\$132) of your Net Monthly Income on water/sewer/trash.

Water Usage and Cost:
Everyone needs water for drinking, bathing, cleaning, and many other things. Calculate your water usage and cost.

1. How many people live in your house? (Enter Your Life Situation) 1
2. The average person in America uses about 130 gallons of water every day. Calculate the number of gallons of water your household consumes in an average day. Multiply Line 1 by 130. 2
3. Calculate your average monthly water usage. Multiply Line 2 by 30. 3
4. Water costs about \$2 per 1,000 gallons. To determine the thousands of gallons used, divide Line 3 by 1,000. Round your answer to the nearest whole number. 4
5. To calculate your monthly water usage. Multiply Line 4 by \$2.00. 5

Sewer Costs
What happens after you flush the toilet? A sewer system provides facilities a way to dispose of their wastewater. The wastewater is carried away from the house and cleaned up in it doesn't smell bad and doesn't contain harmful bacteria. The amount of water that leaves your home as waste, is directly linked to how much water you use.

6. The base rate for all customers is \$5.00. 6
7. The equivalent rate by either a volume amount or tied to how much water you use. 7
8. If Line 6 is less than 5, then enter \$5. 8
9. If Line 6 is 5 or greater, then multiply Line 4 by \$3.00. 9
10. Your monthly sewer cost is add Line 8 and Line 9. 10

Trash and Recycling
What about the other needs in your house? You either recycle it or trash it. If you trash it, it must go to a landfill. You must pay for trash pick-up, hauling, and dumping. Even recycling requires someone to pick it up. This is usually a fixed cost for a home.

11. The base rate for all customers is \$5.00. 11

Your total Water/Sewer/Trash amount is determined by adding together the separate costs.
Add Line 5 plus Line 10 plus Line 11

Personal Investment Report: During the program, after students determine their saving amount, they will calculate the opening value of a stock portfolio. Later they will see if the value went up or down.

1. **Look** at the ticker scrolling across your screen. Each number represents the price for one share of a company's stock
2. **Enter** that number under the Opening Price per Share column.
3. **Multiply** the Number of Shares by the Opening Price per Share to calculate the Opening Value for each stock.
4. **Add** all the Opening Values to calculate the Total Portfolio Value.

Junior Achievement

Personal Investment Report

Your Life Situation

Account #: 105 Age: 27
Ages of Children: 0 Married: Yes
Gross Annual Income: \$59,088 Federal Tax: \$246
Social Security Tax: \$148 Medicare Tax: \$98
Your Net Monthly Income is: \$4,432

Look at the ticker scrolling across your screen. Each number represents the price of one share of a company's stock. Enter that number under the Opening Price per Share. Then calculate the Total Opening Value and Total Portfolio Value.

Stock Abbreviation	Stock Name	No. of Shares	Opening Price per Share	Total Opening Value
sample		5	\$35	\$175 (5 shares times \$35 per share)
BUD	Anheuser-Busch	20	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
AEE	Ameren	40	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
T	AT&T	15	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
COKE	Coca-Cola Bottling	50	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
YUM	Yum! Brand Inc.	30	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
Total Portfolio Value (add all total opening values)				<input type="text"/>

Budget Menu NEXT

Once they complete the project, they will land on the Budget Menu page.

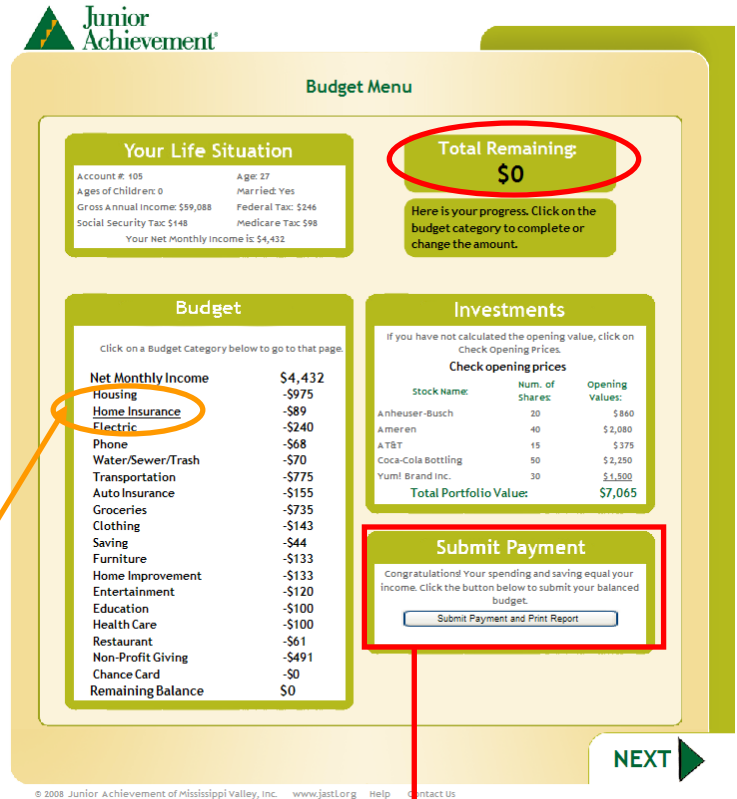
It lists all the categories, and how much was spent on each.

Note that one of the budget categories is saving!

Clicking on any category name will link back to the decision page.

If the Total Remaining is \$0, the **Submit Payment and Print Report** button will be available.

If not, hyperlink back to the categories and revise choices to balance to zero.



Budget Menu

Your Life Situation
Account #: 105 Age: 27
Ages of Children: 0 Married: Yes
Gross Annual Income: \$59,088 Federal Tax: \$246
Social Security Tax: \$148 Medicare Tax: \$98
Your Net Monthly Income is: \$4,432

Total Remaining: \$0
Here is your progress. Click on the budget category to complete or change the amount.

Budget
Click on a Budget Category below to go to that page.

Net Monthly Income	\$4,432
Housing	-\$975
Home Insurance	-\$89
Electric	-\$240
Phone	-\$68
Water/Sewer/Trash	-\$70
Transportation	-\$775
Auto Insurance	-\$155
Groceries	-\$735
Clothing	-\$143
Saving	-\$44
Furniture	-\$133
Home Improvement	-\$133
Entertainment	-\$120
Education	-\$100
Health Care	-\$100
Restaurant	-\$61
Non-Profit Giving	-\$491
Chance Card	-\$0
Remaining Balance	\$0

Investments
If you have not calculated the opening value, click on Check Opening Prices.

Check opening prices

Stock Name:	Num. of Shares:	Opening Values:
Anheuser-Busch	20	\$860
Ameren	40	\$2,080
AT&T	15	\$375
Coca-Cola Bottling	50	\$2,250
Yum! Brand Inc.	30	\$1,500
Total Portfolio Value:		\$7,065

Submit Payment
Congratulations! Your spending and saving equal your income. Click the button below to submit your balanced budget.

NEXT

When they finish, they receive a final Budget Review report. Teachers also have access to this report.

The report shows:

- Their gross annual salary, taxes, and net monthly income.
- Their spending & saving decisions
 - Including a suggested range
 - Teachers can compare how much they saved each month to their other decisions.
- Value of their Investment Portfolio

Budget Review PRINT

Budget Review NEXT >>

Final Report

G Kryv Account # 105

Age of Person	27	Gross Annual Salary	\$59,088
Married	Yes	Gross Monthly Income	\$4,924
# of Children	0	Monthly Income Tax	\$246
Ages of Children	0	Monthly Social Security	\$148
Credit Rating	Poor	Monthly Medicare	\$98
		Lucky Chance Received	—
		NMI	\$4,432

Investment Portfolio

	Number of Shares	Opening Price per Share	Opening Total Value	Closing Price per Share	Closing Total Value
Anheuser-Busch	20	\$43	\$860	\$43	\$860
Ameren	40	\$52	\$2,080	\$51	\$2,040
AT&T	15	\$25	\$375	\$26	\$390
Coca-Cola Bottling	50	\$45	\$2,250	\$43	\$2,150
Yum! Brand Inc.	30	\$50	\$1,500	\$52	\$1,560

NMI \$4,432 Balance \$0

	Amounts Paid	Min %	Max %	
Housing	-\$ 975	\$ 798	\$ 1,064	HI Balance Owed \$ 4,536
Home Insurance	-\$ 89	\$ 44	\$ 133	Furniture Balance Owed \$ 687
Electric	-\$ 240	\$ 133	\$ 355	
Phone	-\$ 68	\$ 44	\$ 222	
Water / Sewer / Trash	-\$ 70	\$ 44	\$ 222	
Transportation	-\$ 775	\$ 665	\$ 842	Available Assets
Auto Insurance	-\$ 155	\$ 89	\$ 222	Inv. Portfolio Value \$ 7,000
Groceries	-\$ 735	\$ 709	\$ 896	Savings Account Balance \$ 44
Clothing	-\$ 143	\$ 133	\$ 310	
Bank	-\$ 44	\$ 44	\$ 44	
Furniture	-\$ 133	\$ 133	\$ 310	
Home Improvement	-\$ 133	\$ 133	\$ 310	
Entertainment	-\$ 120	\$ 89	\$ 222	
Education	-\$ 100	\$ 44	\$ 133	
Health Care	-\$ 100	\$ 89	\$ 266	
Restaurant	-\$ 61	\$ 44	\$ 222	
Non-Profit Giving	-\$ 491	\$ 0	\$ 1,773	
Unlucky Chance Card	-\$ 0			

Thank you for your help!

