



PROJECT OVERVIEW

The Opportunity Jobs Academy (OJA) is an initiative by the City of Orlando's After-School All-Stars program aimed at showing disengaged and at-risk high school students the many benefits and pathways to the middle class that entry-level jobs provide.

Through a unique "real world" curriculum that features practical workplace skills training and hands on mentoring, OJA will prepare these youth for immediate employment in the restaurant and retail sectors, connect them with job opportunities and arm them with the critical work and interpersonal skills needed to succeed in those jobs and, most importantly, climb the ladder of achievement in any profession.

The Orlando Opportunity Jobs Academy fall semester is slated to begin October 2018 at Edgewater High School, with program expansion planned for Boone and Jones high schools.

WHY OJA IS DIFFERENT

The Opportunity Jobs Academy is unique because it brings opportunity (jobs, practical education and mentoring) *directly* to the young men and women who need it most. By combining existing non-profit and youth outreach infrastructure with local business leaders who serve as mentors, the program also fills a needed void in both the youth outreach and workforce development spaces.

THE IMPORTANCE OF MENTORS

Utilizing role models who can show these youth specifically how they leveraged hard work and opportunity to improve their lives is a key component of the Opportunity Jobs Academy.



NOW ACCEPTING MENTORS FOR FALL 2018

We currently are seeking mentors for each student enrolled in the academy. Ideal mentors are individuals who came from similar circumstances and/or have taken advantage of an entry-level job opportunity and turned it into a successful career. As part of the program, each mentor will commit to:

- Spending a set amount of time with their respective mentee over the course of the eight-week program at their place of business. Ideally, student-mentoring sessions are to be conducted in increments of 30-minutes to 1 hour, where you will discuss your industry and how you have succeeded in your career path. *Students will arrange mentoring session via email at least one week in advance.*
Total: 4 hours
- “Telling their story” at some point to the full class of students enrolled in the academy. **Total: 30 minutes - 1 hour**

Each mentor will promote academic and workplace achievement and act as a coach throughout the program and, should they decide to do so, beyond its conclusion.

CURRICULUM

The trademark for this program’s curriculum is its effective combination of hands-on instruction, mentoring matches, and in-class presentations by local business professionals. The classroom curriculum takes each student from the initial job search process, applying for a position, interviewing, and keeping their position. Highlights of the course include financial literacy, resume building, and professional communication:

Week 1: Goal-Setting and Career Exploration

Week 2: Financial Literacy

Week 3: Resume Preparation: Skill-Identification and Personal Branding

Week 4: Interview Preparation: Professional Dress and Communication

Week 5: Mock Interview Workshops and Mentor Matching

Week 6: Workplace Skills

Week 7: Job Search: What are you looking for? Where do you look?

Week 8: Capstone Project Presentations

CONTACT

If you are interested in participating, contact OJA Director of Community Engagement + Development Erin Hellkamp at erin@opportunityjobsfoundation.org or 407-432-6400. To learn more about OJA, visit <http://opportunityjobsfoundation.org/academy> and follow us on [Facebook](#) or [Twitter](#). #OpportunityJobsAcademy #OJA

