



VE-JV Program Implementation FAQs

How does VE-Junior Ventures Career Academy (VE-JV) fit into my school's course offerings? VE-JV is a two course sequence, each requiring approximately 100 - 135 instructional hours and typically offered in the 7th and 8th grade years. The first, Technology Applications for Business, introduces students to the Microsoft Office Suite and other digital tools and uses real-world projects built around an entrepreneurial theme to apply technology skills. In the second-year course, Junior Ventures, students launch and manage a business and apply technology skills to achieve company goals and objectives. These courses are typically offered as electives and students must take Technology Applications for Business before taking Junior Ventures; depending on specific requirements for your state or district, one or both of these courses **may** satisfy a technology requirement or CTE requirement for students.

Does VE provide curriculum and professional development for teachers? VE provides a full curriculum, including activities and assessments, and offers a four-day teacher training program at Long Island University in New York each summer (typically early to mid-July). Attendance is highly encouraged, and teachers may attend as often as they like. Regional support staff provides additional training and support, both in-person and virtually.

What makes a successful VE-JV teacher? Knowledge of, industry experience, and/or interest in business, accounting, marketing, entrepreneurship, or a related field as well as a facility with technology contribute to the success of a VE-JV teacher. However, enthusiasm, a willingness to adopt a facilitation mindset, and a passion for providing students with unique educational experiences is essential.

How do I setup my VE-JV classroom? The ideal VE-JV space more closely resembles an office than a traditional classroom. Providing students with flexible workspaces that support collaboration is highly suggested, such as conference-style tables or workstations where students can work in small groups or as a full company. Teachers may need additional storage space that is accessible during class time for additional non-traditional classroom supplies.

What are the technology requirements for VE-JV? Students require daily access to computers with a reliable internet connection. A 1:1 ratio is required. Students primarily use VE's online portal, Google and/or Microsoft Office 365 for document management. Optional software such as graphic design programs, video conferencing tools, or app-based social media tools such as Instagram or Twitter may enhance the student experience.

What experiential activities do students participate in? From participating in online and in-person local, regional, and national competitions and trade shows, to connecting with mentors and skill-based volunteers, to participation in leadership events, VE-JV provides students with authentic learning experiences that help students develop professional and technical skills.

Please request the full Program Implementation Guide for additional requirements and best practices for successful implementation. If you have any questions or would like to arrange a time to discuss starting a VE-JV program, please contact Glynis O'Leary at goleary@veinternational.org or your Regional Director.