



## Student Volunteers

Volunteering as a student offers an opportunity for hands on experience that can lead to new perspectives and experiences that bridge the gap between formal education and paid work. Volunteering enables students to gain or develop a good number of transferable skills.

When students volunteer, everyone wins.

Youth win by broadening their knowledge of their community and learning new skills.

Schools win, as youth volunteers are positive and engaged students.

Businesses win, as they can recruit youth who have experiences and attitudes that foster commitment and loyalty.

The community wins, as the Volunteer experience creates new generations of caring and concerned citizens.

### Frequently Asked Questions

#### Why should I volunteer?

There are many good reasons to volunteer:

- To support a cause in which you believe (environment, literacy, integration of new Canadians ...).
- To meet all sorts of new people.
- To acquire work experience.
- To learn about your community.

#### Can I stop volunteering at any time?

Yes! Volunteering is a personal choice. You can stop anytime you want. However if an organization invests time to provide you with training, they will ask for a commitment of three to six months.

#### I have very little free time; can I still volunteer?

Yes, it is possible to volunteer for short-term activities (festivals, sports or fundraising events). It can be for a few minutes per day (phone calls to the elderly), a few minutes per week (update a web site), or for as long as you wish.

#### Can I volunteer in my field of study?

It depends what field you're in. It is easy for those in the health, information technology, sciences, education and translation fields to find volunteer opportunities. For those pursuing professional designations such as accountants, notaries, engineers, biochemists, and others, it may be more difficult.

### Resources for more information on Student Volunteering

- [Making a difference: Your guide to creating a successful volunteering group](#). Published by Student Volunteering England.