



Information for Volunteering Organisations

Whether you need fresh ideas, niche skills or just lots of enthusiasm, students are the perfect addition to your team of volunteers. JMSU have just started our volunteering journey and would be interested to speak to any local Liverpool charities or volunteering organisations.

Why advertise your volunteering roles with us?

- There are no fees, so you can promote your role to the LJMU student community.
- Your opportunity will be viewed by hundreds of students on our portal and our social media
- We can promote your opportunities in our newsletter to students who are keen to hear about what is available
- We can target specific student groups to find that particular skill you're searching for
- We offer advice on how to develop and adapt volunteering opportunities for students

How to register?

Please register your organisation before you advertise your volunteering roles on our online portal. Here's a handy guide to walk you through the process. If you get stuck or have any questions, email our team at jmsuvolunteering@ljmu.ac.uk.

The first stage of registration is a chance for you to introduce your organisation to the student body. This space is an 'About Me' section, rather than an ad for your specific opportunity. Once it's been submitted, we can approve your application and you'll be ready to upload a volunteering opportunity to our portal.

Please take some time to read over our Service Level Agreement, which sets out our terms and conditions. As you create a volunteer advert, please specify in the ad whether DBS checks are required.

Quick Tips on How to Work with Students

Student Availability

You're more likely to hear from students if your activity falls within [academic term times](#), which can vary slightly from year to year. You could have a look at our academic dates and plan your activities to avoid holidays and revision weeks. Alternatively, you might want to have a continuity plan for your activities to run whilst students are unavailable.

Most students are usually available between October and mid-December, and between February and April. Speak to your volunteers about their schedules and holiday plans when they join the organisation to avoid any unexpected drop-outs.

Proximity

Students often take the location of an opportunity into consideration when applying, as only a small minority drive in Liverpool and public transport can be expensive. Specifying where your volunteering activities take place can encourage more students living in the local area to apply.

If your activity is further away from the city centre, we recommend that you highlight local bus routes in your ad and identify whether you can cover travel expenses.

One-off opportunities

Students are increasingly interested in one-off events. It's an ideal way into volunteering for those who've never tried it before but are keen to get involved. Many postgraduates and third-year students would love to work with a local organisation but can only afford small pockets of time.

One-off volunteering days can be particularly attractive to students, so you might want to think about altering the opportunity you're advertising to accommodate this. Once students get a taste of volunteering with your project, they'll be more likely to consider a long-term role.

Clear expectations and benefits

Make sure you complete your volunteer advert in full, highlighting the level of time commitment that is required for the role.

Think about the types of skills students can expect to gain from your opportunity. Consider what type of support you're able to offer. Shout about any training and resources available for your volunteers, and whether you're able to give a reference at the end of their time with you.

Work with existing student groups

JMSU is home to around 100 sports clubs and societies, and many of them are engaged in fundraising and volunteering activities. There's also a group of student-led volunteering projects working primarily in the community.

Your volunteering opportunities might align with what existing student groups are already doing. They're all very keen to collaborate with local projects, so have a browse and drop them an email.