

Requirements for Becoming a Volunteer

We welcome individuals of all backgrounds and abilities. Because of the nature of care being delivered at our VA hospitals, all volunteers are carefully screened and individually matched to their assignments.

The potential volunteer may be required to complete the following:

- Interview
- Volunteer Application
- Background Investigation
- General Orientation
- Job Specific Competencies

This process is not only meant to ensure the safety and well being of our Veterans and their families but provide a successful volunteer experience as well.

Contact VAWS

If you are interested in volunteering, or would like more information about volunteering, contact the Voluntary Service staff at a VA facility near you or visit our website at www.volunteer.va.gov.

Contact Info:

Serving Those Who Have Served



Department of Veterans Affairs
Washington, D.C. 20420
OFFICIAL BUSINESS
Penalty for private use \$300



Welcome

The Department of Veterans Affairs Voluntary Service (VAVS) program is one of the largest volunteer programs in the Federal government. Our mission is to enhance the Veterans' healthcare experience through utilization of volunteers and donations.

The generosity of the volunteer's time allows us to provide many of the additional niceties that otherwise could not be accomplished by the paid staff on a day-to-day basis.

VAVS offers volunteer assignments that fulfill the volunteer's desire to make a difference in a Veteran's life. The VAVS program can be tailored to meet the volunteer needs of an individual, student, family, large group or corporation.



Benefits of Volunteering

HEALTH BENEFITS:

- Increase your physical and mental activity
- Improve your physical and mental health
- Extend your life

SOCIAL BENEFITS:

- Make new friends
- Be part of a team
- Feel needed – make a positive impact
- Gain a sense of pride, satisfaction, and achievement

CIVIC BENEFITS:

- Share your skills
- Give back – contribute to society
- Fulfill your civic duty
- Serve those who have served our country
- Set the example for family, friends and co-workers

CAREER/EDUCATION BENEFITS:

- Explore career paths
- Learn new skills
- Build your resume
- Earn volunteer hours



Volunteer Assignments

We have many volunteer opportunities for you, your family, friends and co-workers. Assignments may vary from facility to facility but your involvement can make a real difference in the life of a Veteran patient.

INFORMATION DESK

Greet patients and visitors, provide direction and information to guests entering the hospital.

GUEST SERVICES AMBASSADOR

Deliver personal hygiene items, magazines, phone cards, and stationary related items to all inpatients.

PATIENT FEEDING

Assist staff in feeding Veterans who are not physically capable of feeding themselves.

VOLUNTEER DRIVER

Provide transportation for patients to the medical facility or transport them from the parking lot to the building that their appointment is located in.

ADAPTIVE SPORTS

Volunteers that have experience in various indoor and outdoor sports, teach Veterans skills such as kayaking, skiing, surfing, or fly fishing.

HOSPICE

Provides comfort and support to terminally ill Veterans and their families.

PATIENT ESCORT

Provide manpower in assisting Veterans to and from hospital appointments via wheelchair or gurney.

OTHER ASSIGNMENTS MAY INCLUDE:

Office Support Assistant, Engineering support, Lab Assistant, Meal Time Companion, etc.

