

# **V-Team Frequently Asked Questions**

## **1. Why should I join the V Team?**

The question is why would you not?! Volunteering with the USU is a great way to make friends, have fun and be involved with your campus community. It's easy to get involved and the opportunities are flexible around your other commitments. We regularly meet for social events on and off campus so you can get to know your fellow volunteers and throughout the various activities you volunteer for, you can access a range of perks to thank you for your hard work including but not limited to free food and drink, free event entry and loads of opportunities for you to win prizes and awards! As a committed member of the V Team you will also have access to the [V Team Reward Program](#) where you can redeem your volunteer hours for perks on campus.

## **2. Who can volunteer with the V Team?**

Anyone who is a current student of USyd with a USU membership can volunteer for the V Team. Volunteering is a great way to make new friends, develop a wide array of skills and become involved with campus life.

## **3. What will my responsibilities include?**

Your responsibilities will vary depending on what specific activity you are volunteering for on that day. Your responsibilities could include but not be limited to; providing on the ground support at the many events and festivals the USU holds, being a smiling and welcoming face to the international student community, tutoring struggling high school students in a subject of your choice or giving back to your community by being involved with an external charity! There is something for everyone and we always want to hear from you if you have any ideas/passions for new volunteering opportunities.

## **4. On average how many hours am I expected to volunteer?**

It all depends on how much time you would like to give! We place great emphasis on the student experience, and with this comes a great level of understanding towards your commitment to study. As such, we create rosters that allow you to volunteer at times that you're free outside of your other commitments (provided they work around the event that's being held). There are a range of volunteer roles requiring different amounts of time throughout semester, this could be a regular time each week or a one-off event!

Rest assured there is something for everyone. All we ask is that you are upfront and honest about the amount of time you can give.

**5. Will I have to wear a uniform?**

Before your first shift you will be given an exclusive V Team t-shirt to wear at all volunteering events! During the colder months you are provided with a V Team jumper to keep you warm at outdoor events too.

**6. Will I be paid?**

Unfortunately, no. All member of the V Team give their time for free as they enjoy being part of the community and giving back! However as a V Team member you can access the [V Team Reward Program](#) where you can redeem your volunteer hours for perks on campus.

**7. Do I get to choose which group I get to volunteer for?**

You are given the choice of which groups you would like to join to during the induction process, you can join as many as you like, as long as you are honest and upfront about the time you can give to each activity. Last minute drop outs are not cool!

**8. Do I get to join in on the activities/events I'm volunteering for?**

Whilst you will be asked to help with the running of the events all our volunteers get to join in on the celebrations as well! If not during your shift then most definitely before and after.

**9. As a new volunteer, how do I get to know the other volunteers?**

New volunteers are assigned to a friendly and helpful Team Leader volunteer, who has lots of experience with the V Team. They are able to answer any questions you might have and introduce you to the other volunteers. Volunteering is a great way to make new friends on campus and we have regular social gatherings to help friendships grow!

**10. Will I receive any training?**

When you first join the program, you will take part in one of our compulsory induction sessions to let you know more about what is in store. Before big events such as Welcome Week or International Festival we will have training/briefing sessions so you are prepared and know what to expect. Also, before every volunteer shift you will receive a short brief outlining your duties so you feel ready!

**11. Are there any leadership opportunities I can take part in?**

The V Team is a great way to build your leadership skills. After completing a minimum of 10 volunteer hours you have the opportunity to apply to be a Team Leader Volunteer where you are responsible for a group of your peers, this is especially important for the big events and festivals like International Festival. You will also get to be part of the Volunteering Buddy System where you look after a group of new volunteers answering any questions they might have and making them feel welcome into the community.

Our Team Leader volunteers also have the opportunity to develop public speaking skills by hosting and presenting to international students about life at USyd.

**12. How will I be supported whilst volunteering with the USU?**

As a valued member of the USU we will always seek to support you where we can from providing a flexible volunteer schedule to suit your study and buddy systems to make you feel welcome as a new volunteer. The V Team Facebook page is also a great way to become involved in the volunteer community. The Volunteer Programs Coordinator is always here, too, if you have any questions or need support too, you can contact her by [volunteer@usu.edu.au](mailto:volunteer@usu.edu.au).

**13. Do I need any qualifications or experience?**

Apart from being a current USYD student with a USU membership no other qualifications are required. V Team members are friendly, sociable, reliable and fun!

**14. Can I volunteer with my friends?**

The V Team is open to the entire USYD community, so, yes. Anyone can apply to be part of the program, however, it is also a great chance to make new friends with people from other faculties or backgrounds and to push you out of your comfort zone!

**15. How do I join?**

Great, we are so excited to have you onboard! To join the V Team, simply fill out our application form on our volunteers webpage and we will be in touch soon.

*If you have any further questions please get in touch with the Volunteer Programs Coordinator by emailing [volunteer@usu.edu.au](mailto:volunteer@usu.edu.au)*