



Volunteering for International Students

Volunteering is a great way to get to know Bath, meet new people, and learn CV-boosting skills. The Volunteer Team is here to make volunteering as easy as possible, whether you're new to volunteering, or have volunteered in the past.

Browse our current [volunteer opportunities](#) to see what's on offer.

Volunteering and visas

If you are an international student it is your responsibility to ensure that you comply with the conditions of your visa at all times, including any restrictions on working in the UK.

For students on a student visa, there is a legal distinction between volunteering and voluntary work. Virtually all opportunities we have on offer meet the definition of volunteering rather than 'voluntary work', so would be allowed on a student visa. Please see [Information for Student/Tier 4 visa workers](#) for more details.

If you're in any doubt, please contact us on volunteers@bath.ac.uk or speak to an Immigration Adviser on studentimmigrationservice@bath.ac.uk before starting.





The UK government's definition of 'Voluntary Work' and 'Volunteering'

Voluntary workers:

- Often have a contract, which does not have to be written, with their employer. This means the employer must provide the work and the voluntary worker must attend at particular times and carry out specific tasks.
- Can be remunerated in kind, e.g. for offered free gifts, accommodation

Volunteers:

- Do not have a contract of employment
- Must not take the place of an employee
- Must not receive payment in kind however reimbursement for reasonable travel and subsistence expenses (e.g. for lunch) is allowed
- Usually help a charity or voluntary or public sector organisation

If you have any questions, please email either
studentimmigrationservice@bath.ac.uk or volunteers@bath.ac.uk

November 2025

