

English Language Institute Volunteer Experience Program

The definition of volunteer:

1. To perform or offer to perform a service of one's own free will.
2. To do charitable or helpful work without pay

In America, people volunteer for many different reasons. Some people volunteer to gain valuable work experience; others volunteer to improve their resume and some people volunteer to support an idea or cause.

Most importantly, people volunteer to help other people.

By giving your time to volunteer organizations, you provide important services that would, otherwise, not be available in the community.

As an international student, volunteering means meeting and working with native speakers of English. Being part of a volunteer organization will allow you to practice your English in a non-academic environment, while making new friends and experiencing local American culture.

- Please fill out this application to apply for the Volunteer Experience Program. We will take your volunteer interests into consideration when placing you with an organization.
- This is a semester long commitment. We expect that when you are placed with a volunteer organization, you will dedicate one semester to them.
- Your volunteer hours will be determined by your organization, but you must not miss ELI class to volunteer.

**English Language Institute
Volunteer Experience Program Application**

Name: _____ Birthdate: _____

Phone number: _____ Email: _____

Please tell us what activities you would be interested in doing (an example of volunteer organizations in Missoula follows this application):

If you have volunteered in the past, please tell us about your experiences: _____

Please tell us how many hours you would like to volunteer each week and what time you would like to volunteer (example: after class or weekends): _____

Please tell us why you are interested in volunteering:

Please check the transportation you use:

- ☐ Bike
- ☐ Car
- ☐ Bus
- ☐ Walking



Examples of Volunteer Organizations in Missoula

Organization	Typical Volunteering Activities	Website
Missoula Food Bank	Meeting clients; stocking shelves & grocery boxes;	http://www.missoulafoodbank.org/
Free Cycles	Greeting people; helping run volunteer night	http://www.strans.org/freecycles.html
Goodwill Industries	Merchandising, handling goods, putting items on the shelves.	http://www.goodwill.org/page/guest/about
Flagship Program	Visiting 2 nd /3 rd grade students and tutoring, mentoring, & providing skill development & sports/art classes	http://flagshipprogram.org/
The Springs Retirement Center	Planning party events, doing crafts, cooking projects with clients	http://www.thespringsliving.com/
Montana Natural History Center	Helping with exhibits; setting up lectures	http://www.montanaturalist.org/
Boys & Girls Club	Helping with exhibits; setting up lectures	http://www.bgca.org/
Missoula Art Museum	Museum Aide; various duties	http://www.missoulaartmuseum.org/
YMCA	Teaching art, music or drama; coaching soccer	http://www.ymcamissoula.org/
Missoula Natural History Center; MUD	Landscaping and gardening	http://www.montanaturalist.org/ http://mudproject.ning.com/
Janette Rankin Peace Center	Helping in fair trade store	http://jrpc.org/