

Many colleges and scholarship committees like to see that their future students have been involved in community service. What's the best way to get involved? Volunteer!

Volunteering offers valuable life experience and skills. These skills could be a helpful factor in determining your college major or career. Volunteering not only helps others but it can help you too! You get experience, plus you meet a lot of great people in the process. Volunteering is a way of networking and meeting friends!

But before you start, ask yourself these questions to make sure you get the right volunteering position for you!

- How much time do I have to commit?
- Do I want a long-term, short-term, or one-day assignment?
- What talent or skills do I offer?
- What type of service do I want to do?
- What opportunities would align with future career fields?
- Do I want to work alone or with a group?
- Who do I want to work with- fellow volunteers and the people who are receiving my services?

Now that you've answered these questions you're ready to get started!

Opportunities to Get Involved

- Search for opportunities on Volunteer Match www.volunteermatch.org or 1-800-VOLUNTEER
- **Advocacy and Human Rights:** contact [The Advocates for Human Rights](#)
- **Animals:** contact your local animal shelters
- **Arts and Culture:** www.volunteermatch.org
- **Children and Youth:** tutor young children and your local elementary or middle schools
- **Education and Literacy:** volunteer at the library or the SMART Reading program
- **Disaster Relief/Crisis Support/Emergency and Safety:** contact your local food bank, the Red Cross, or United Way
- **Environment:** [7 Volunteering Ideas to Help the Environment](#); community parks, beach clean up
- **Faith-Based:** contact your local churches
- **Health and Medicine:** contact your local hospital, urgent care, or clinics
- **Homeless and Housing:** [Homeless Shelter Directory](#)
- **Justice and Legal:** [United States Department of Justice](#)
- **Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion:** contact organizations working with LGBTQ+, people of color, people with disabilities, immigrants and refugees
- **Media & Broadcasting:** www.volunteermatch.org
- **Politics:** www.volunteermatch.org
- **Senior Help:** contact your local senior citizen centers
- **Sports and Recreation:** coaching young kids sports teams
- **Veterans and Military Families:** [Volunteer and Working with Veterans](#)
- **Women:** contact your local women's shelter or organization