



## **American Red Cross Youth Engagement Guide**

Revised by the American Red Cross National Youth Council, August 2019

The Youth Engagement Guide aims to connect youth volunteers with available volunteer positions highlighted in your region's Needs Assessment. Red Cross youth volunteers are a powerful source of energy and excitement regarding the organization's mission, and this guide serves to expand their opportunities across all lines of service.

This Guide is a comprehensive listing of volunteer positions that are ideal for youth and young adult volunteers, and includes all relevant information regarding the position's requirements. The purpose of this Guide is to engage more youth volunteers across every line of service to expand the way that the American Red Cross utilizes youth volunteers. This Guide serves as a starting point for thinking about new ways that the organization can fulfill volunteer positions while empowering youth volunteers to engage in meaningful service across multiple lines of service.

### **How to use this Guide:**

On pages 2 and 3, there is a listing of positions in every line of service that can be filled by registered Red Cross youth volunteers. Each listed position includes:

1. **Position name** with link to Volunteer Position Description
2. **Age Requirements** outlined by the American Red Cross. More information about age requirements for specific positions can be found in the listed resources below.
3. **Experience Necessary** outlined in the position description from the Exchange.
4. **Areas of Interest** to match youth volunteers with positions that appeal to their interests.
5. **Feasibility of Group or Club Participation** suggested by the youth volunteers of the National Youth Council.
6. **Key tasks** - Brief Position Description with position's key responsibilities.

### **More Helpful Resources:**

- [Youth Volunteer Forms](#)
- [Age Requirements for Youth Volunteers](#)
- [Tips for getting Youth Volunteers to register in Volunteer Connection](#)
- [Volunteer Recruitment Materials](#)
- [Volunteer Position Description Index](#)



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<b>Blood Services</b>					
<b>Position Name</b>	<b>Age Requirements</b>	<b>Experience Necessary</b>	<b>Areas of Interest</b>	<b>Good for Groups (Clubs)?</b>	<b>Key Tasks</b>
<a href="#"><u>Blood Donor Ambassador</u></a>	14+	Communication skills	Pre-Health	Yes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Attend to donors at reception and hospitality areas.</li><li>- Share and collect donation stories.</li></ul>
<a href="#"><u>Administrative Assistant</u></a>	16+	Computer and software knowledge (Microsoft Office)	Pre-Health, especially those interested in healthcare education and management	No	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Inform donors of essential facts to enhance donation experience</li><li>- Office assistance and supervision of clerical volunteers</li></ul>
<a href="#"><u>Apheresis Assistant</u></a>	16+	Communication skills  Customer service experience preferred	Pre-Health, especially those looking for experience with event and volunteer supervision	No	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Overseeing donating process and attend to donor at all stages</li><li>- Follow up appointment to recruit long term donors</li></ul>
<a href="#"><u>Community Outreach Specialist</u></a>	16+	Communication skills  May require specific language fluency	Pre-Health	Yes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Outreach donor recruitment and education in the community</li><li>- Opportunity to strengthen communication and marketing skills</li></ul>



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<a href="#"><u>Blood Services Mentor</u></a>	18+	Previous experience as a Blood Drive Assistant, Donor Ambassador or Transportation Specialist  Or willingness to be trained and complete 3 assignments (18 hours) as a team member	Healthcare management and education	No	- Next step from donor ambassador - Training liaison between Donor ambassadors - Provide on-the-job support and coaching to new volunteers
<a href="#"><u>Office Assistant</u></a>	14+	Clerical and computer skills (Microsoft Office)	Management and administration	No	- Gaining experience in clerical, computer skills and administrative duties - Introduction to Red Cross and other nonprofit organization administrations



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<a href="#"><u>Proctor</u></a>	18+	Strong verbal, communication, and technology skills (Microsoft Office)	Information technology	No	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Administer the New Hire Orientation</li> <li>- Provide technical and logistical support</li> </ul>
<a href="#"><u>Blood Services Volunteer Trainer</u></a>	18+	Punctuality and dependability; must be comfortable teaching a diverse range of people new skills	Pre-health, especially those looking for healthcare management and education experience	No	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Service as Subject Matter Experts in blood service volunteers assignments</li> <li>- Orient and train Donor Ambassador and oversee Blood Service Training</li> </ul>
<a href="#"><u>Blood Services Warehouse/Kitting Assistant</u></a>	16+	Strong organizational skills	Field work and supply support for non-profit organizations	Yes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Experiencing the warehouse management environment</li> <li>- Subdivide and organize large quantities of material into smaller packages</li> <li>- Ability to lift &gt;25 lbs.</li> </ul>



## Disaster Cycle Services

Position Name	Age Requirements	Experience Necessary	Areas of Interest	Good for groups (Clubs)?	Key Tasks
<a href="#"><u>Disaster Action Team (DAT) Member</u></a>	18+	Disaster training courses required (Disaster Cycle Services Overview; Recovery Services: An Overview; Casework and Recovery; Planning Fundamentals; Direct Client Assistance)	Emergency Response, Psychology, Sociology, Social Work, Nursing, Civic Engagement, Community Preparedness	No	- Respond to local disasters
<a href="#"><u>Community Preparedness Education Team Member</u></a>	16+	Workshop/Training varies based on local area	Emergency Response, Psychology, Sociology, Social Work, Nursing, Education, Community Preparedness	No	- Share disaster preparedness education with the community - Develop public speaking and presentation skills - Attend regular CDE meetings
<a href="#"><u>Disaster Public Affairs Volunteer</u></a>	16+	Workshop/Training varies based on local area	Emergency Response, Psychology, Sociology, Social Work, Nursing, Communications, Public Relations, Civic Engagement, Community Preparedness	No	- Coordinate publicity and media about disaster services - Write press releases - Coordinate with social media efforts



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<a href="#"><u>Pillowcase Project Team Member</u></a>	14+	Pillowcase Project training required; Strong communication skills, including public speaking	Emergency Response, Psychology, Sociology, Social Work, Nursing, Education, Community Preparedness	No	-Presents The Pillowcase Project presentation to 3 <sup>rd</sup> – 5 <sup>th</sup> graders, which includes disaster preparedness education, to youth in the community.
<a href="#"><u>Prepare with Pedro Team Member</u></a>	14+	Strong communication skills, including public speaking	Emergency Response, Psychology, Sociology, Social Work, Nursing, Education, Community Preparedness	No	-Presents Prepare with Pedro presentation, which includes disaster preparedness education, to youth in the community.





### Home Fire Campaign

Position Name	Age Requirements	Experience Necessary	Areas of Interest	Good for Groups (Clubs)?	Key Tasks
<a href="#"><u>Pre-Event Canvassing Volunteer (Home Fire Campaign Team Member)</u></a>	13-17; Youth under 13 if with a parent/guardian	Workshop/training varies based on local area	Emergency Response, Psychology, Sociology, Social Work, Nursing, Civic engagement	Yes	-Directly communicates with Home Fire Campaign participants in the community -Informs the community about the Home Fire Campaign program's benefits
<a href="#"><u>Documenter</u></a>	16+; Youth 13-15 can share the role with an accompanying parent/guardian	Workshop/training varies based on local area	Emergency Response, Psychology, Sociology, Social Work, Nursing, Civic engagement	Yes	-Ensures that all community smoke detectors are in compliance with standards -Maintaining documentation and discussing Home Fire Campaign documents with community residents
<a href="#"><u>Safety Educator</u></a>	16+; Youth 13-15 can share the role with an accompanying parent/guardian	Workshop/training varies based on local area	Emergency Response, Psychology, Sociology, Social Work, Nursing, civic engagement	Yes	-Teaches community residents about the benefits of maintaining smoke detectors and ways to prevent fires.



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<a href="#"><u>Smoke Alarm Installer</u></a>	16+; Youth 13-15 can install with presence of parent/guardian	Workshop/training varies based on local area	Emergency Response, Psychology, Sociology, Social Work, Nursing, civic engagement	Good for clubs and individuals	-Leads the installation of smoke detectors in homes -Troubleshoots defective devices -Ensures the proper functionality of devices



<b>International Services</b>					
<b>Position Name</b>	<b>Age Requirements</b>	<b>Experience Necessary</b>	<b>Areas of Interest</b>	<b>Good for groups (Clubs)?</b>	<b>Key Tasks</b>
<a href="#"><u>International Restoring Family Links Outreach Team Member</u></a>	16+	None	Political Science, Communication, Education, International Relations, Communications, Philosophy, Political Science, Communications	Yes	- Reach out to the field to publicize and promote the Restoring Family Links Program. -Hosting a booth at local community fairs and World Refugee Day celebrations is a large portion of this position
<a href="#"><u>Interpreter/Translator</u></a>	18+	Fluency in English and at least one other language	Political Science, Communication, Education, International Relations, Communications, Philosophy, Political Science, Communications	No	-Provide interpreter services -Provide help in translating documents



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<a href="#"><u>Visual Storyteller</u></a>	16+	Experience with photography recommended	Political Science, Economics, International Relations, Communication, Graphic design, Visual arts	No	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Publicize international services news at the local chapter and youth programming.</li><li>- Communicate with local media outlets and utilize technology.</li><li>- Great for anyone interested in marketing, graphic design and social media</li></ul>



## Service to the Armed Forces

Position Name	Age Requirements	Experience Necessary	Areas of Interest	Good for Groups (Clubs)?	Key Tasks
<a href="#"><u>Animal Visitation Program Lead</u></a>	18+	Needs to have knowledge of and ability to work with Animal Therapy organizations and have the ability to work independently without close supervision. Requires hospital specific training.	Pre-Veterinarian, Animal Science, Occupational Therapy, Pre-Health	No	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Manages Animal Visitation Program Team.</li> <li>- Screen animals for credentials &amp; coordinate all animal visits.</li> <li>-One-year term with flexible schedule.</li> </ul>
<a href="#"><u>Animal Visitation Program Volunteer</u></a>	18+	Needs to have knowledge of and ability to work with Animal Therapy organizations and have the ability to work independently without close supervision. Requires hospital specific training.	Pre-Veterinarian, Animal Science, Occupational Therapy, Pre-Health	No	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Participates in the Animal Visitation Program Team.</li> <li>- Screen animals for credentials &amp; coordinate all animal visits.</li> <li>-One-year term with flexible schedule.</li> </ul>
<a href="#"><u>Military Hospital Clinic Volunteer</u></a>	16+ (Age will depend on type of jobs available.)	Requires professionalism and ability to maintain confidentiality, basic administrative skills and additional hospital training.	Education, Social Work	No	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-Provides help with tasks in clinical setting - duties vary based on area of clinic/hospital.</li> <li>-Enhance patient morale.</li> <li>-Flexible.</li> </ul>



### Service to the Armed Forces

Position Name	Age Requirements	Experience Necessary	Areas of Interest	Good for Groups (Clubs)?	Key Tasks
<a href="#"><u>Community Relations and Outreach Lead</u></a>	14+ (14-17 needs adult supervision)	Ability to communicate effectively in a public setting, computer skills preferred.	Open to all.	No	- Inform and educate Red Cross partners, service members, and families by conducting briefings on SAF services. -Flexible.
<a href="#"><u>IHL Youth Action Campaign Advocate</u></a>	13-24	Attend a training conducted by the IHL Youth Action Campaign Regional Coordinator	Political Science, Economics, International Relations, Communications, Philosophy, Sociology, Psychology, Teaching/Education, Public Health	Yes	-To raise awareness and educate peers about IHL



### Service to the Armed Forces

Position Name	Age Requirements	Experience Necessary	Areas of Interest	Good for Groups (Clubs)?	Key Tasks
<a href="#"><u>IHL Youth Action Campaign Regional Coordinator</u></a>	16+	1 year of IHL experience recommended	Political Science, Economics, International Relations, Communications, Philosophy, Sociology, Psychology, Teaching/Education, Public Health	No	- Oversees the International Humanitarian Law (IHL) Action Campaign in the local region. Great for young adults who are skilled in communication, community outreach, organization, and are involved with the Red Cross
<a href="#"><u>International Humanitarian Law Basic Level Instructor</u></a>	16+	Complete an application and take the training provided on EDGE	Political Science, Communication, Education, International Relations, Communications, Philosophy, Education	Yes	- Great for volunteers who like learning about our origins as an organization, especially our international role - Public speaking skills and education are major portions of this position. - Time commitments vary by local area.



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<a href="#"><u>Military Hospital Wounded Service Member Outreach Volunteer</u></a>	18+	Ability to communicate effectively in a public setting.	Open to all.	No	-Provide support and assistance to wounded service members -Various tasks include helping with supplies, providing briefings, and serving as a point of communication
<a href="#"><u>Animal Visitation Program Lead</u></a>	18+	Needs to have knowledge of and ability to work with Animal Therapy organizations and have the ability to work independently without close supervision. Requires hospital specific training.	Pre-Veterinarian, Animal Science, Occupational Therapy, Pre-Health	No	- Manages Animal Visitation Program Team. - Screen animals for credentials & coordinate all animal visits. -One-year term with flexible schedule.





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<a href="#"><u>Animal Visitation Program Volunteer</u></a>	18+	Needs to have knowledge of and ability to work with Animal Therapy organizations and have the ability to work independently without close supervision. Requires hospital specific training.	Pre-Veterinarian, Animal Science, Occupational Therapy, Pre-Health	No	- Participates in the Animal Visitation Program Team. - Screen animals for credentials & coordinate all animal visits. -One-year term with flexible schedule.
<a href="#"><u>Military Hospital Clinic Volunteer</u></a>	16+ (Age will depend on type of jobs available.)	Requires professionalism and ability to maintain confidentiality, basic administrative skills and additional hospital training.	Education, Social Work	No	-Provides help with tasks in clinical setting - duties vary based on area of clinic/hospital. -Enhance patient morale. -Flexible.
<a href="#"><u>Community Relations and Outreach Lead</u></a>	14+ (14-17 needs adult supervision)	Ability to communicate effectively in a public setting, computer skills preferred.	Open to all.	No	- Inform and educate Red Cross partners, service members, and families by conducting briefings on SAF services. -Flexible.



## Communications

Position Name	Age Requirements	Experience Necessary	Areas of Interest	Good for Groups (Clubs)?	Key Tasks
<a href="#"><u>Blogger-Writer</u></a>	16+	Strong writing, editing, research, and interpersonal skills.	Writing, communications, research	No	-Write and post blog stories, conduct interviews -Develop other written materials -Flexible, based on needs of Communications department
<a href="#"><u>Social Engagement Volunteer</u></a>	16+	Strong understanding of social media platforms, experience managing professional social media accounts	Writing, communications	No	-Post content on Red Cross social media platforms -Train and encourage other Red Cross staff and volunteers to post information on their own social media accounts -Engage with other posters -Flexible, based on needs of Communications department
<a href="#"><u>Visual Storyteller</u></a>	16+	Prior photography or videography experience	Photography, communications	No	-Take photos/videos at events and share on social media along with captions -Flexible, 12-16 hours per month, depends on personal projects and local disasters.



<b>Fundraising</b>					
<b>Position Name</b>	<b>Age Requirements</b>	<b>Experience Necessary</b>	<b>Areas of Interest</b>	<b>Good for Groups (Clubs)?</b>	<b>Key Tasks</b>
<a href="#"><u>Development Intern</u></a>	16+	Customer service experience. Social Experience and people interaction is preferred.	Social work, communications, office work, research	No	-Contacting potential donors. -Writing thank you cards to donors -Office organization and computer usage. -Flexible
<a href="#"><u>Event Volunteer</u></a>	17+	comfortable and outgoing in front of others.	Event Planning, Management	Dependent upon regional events	-Help plan special events -Assists in day-of tasks including registration, logistics, etc.
<a href="#"><u>Visual Storyteller</u></a>	16+	Prior photography or videography experience	Photography, communications	No	-Take photos/videos at events and share on social media along with captions -Flexible, 12-16 hours per month, depends on personal projects and local disasters.



## Volunteer Services

Position Name	Age Requirements	Experience Necessary	Areas of Interest	Good for Groups (Clubs)?	Key Tasks
<a href="#"><u>Academic Service Learning (ASL) Volunteer</u></a>	18+	Volunteer Connection training recommended	Community Preparedness, Special Events, Administrative Support, Education, Public Relations, Student Nursing, Social Work	Yes	-Participate in various volunteer roles depending on organizational priorities and volunteer's interests.
<a href="#"><u>Office Support Volunteer</u></a>	Generally 13+ (can vary based on role within chapter)	Volunteer Connection training recommended	Administrative Support, Technology, Data Entry	No	- Work with spreadsheets, direct visitors, and answer phones.
<a href="#"><u>Intake Volunteer</u></a>	Generally 13+ (can vary based on role within chapter)	Volunteer Connection training recommended	Administrative Support, Technology, Data Entry	No	- Welcome new volunteers into the Red Cross community and ensure timely on-boarding of new volunteers.
<a href="#"><u>Volunteer Connection Lead</u></a>	16+ (depending on local area)	Volunteer Connection training recommended	Administrative Support, Technology, Data Entry	No	- Manage data and hours collection on Volunteer Connection.



## Volunteer Services

Position Name	Age Requirements	Experience Necessary	Areas of Interest	Good for Groups (Clubs)?	Key Tasks
<a href="#"><u>Recruitment Volunteer</u></a>	15+ (depending on local area)	Volunteer Connection training recommended	Social Work, Community Engagement, Special Events, Communications, Media, Outreach, Marketing, Public Relations	No	- Plan and execute community recruitment events.