



# Volunteering

What is  
volunteering?

- Volunteering means doing unpaid work to benefit a community organisation, such as a sporting club, school or charity.
- Some examples of volunteering include:
  - helping with fundraising events
  - helping the State Emergency Service clean up after a storm
  - serving customers in a charity op-shop.

Will  
I be paid?

- Volunteers are not employees and should not expect to be paid for any work.
- As a volunteer you get to choose when and how often you work for the organisation.
- You are not obligated to attend the workplace or perform any work.

How do I find  
volunteering  
opportunities?

- You can find volunteer positions on the Volunteering Australia website at [volunteeringaustralia.org](http://volunteeringaustralia.org).
- Talk to local community groups to see if they need volunteers.
- Some charities allow you to sign up for one-off or ongoing volunteering opportunities.
- Once you know where you want to volunteer, talk with them about your availability.



## Why volunteer?

- Volunteering can help you build skills and abilities that employers want. This includes things like planning and organising, reliability and time-management.
- Volunteering is a great way to give back to your local community.
- It is a good way to meet people who could act as referees for future job applications.

## Where can I find more information?

- For more information on volunteering, visit the Fair Work Ombudsman website at [fairwork.gov.au](http://fairwork.gov.au) and search for 'Unpaid work'.
- Visit Job Jumpstart ([jobjumpstart.gov.au](http://jobjumpstart.gov.au)) for tips and hints on building your work experience through volunteering.

Disclaimer: The content of this tipsheet is intended as general information only and does not replace professional advice. It is derived from a variety of sources and has been prepared without taking into account your individual objectives, situation or needs. You should consider your personal circumstances, and if appropriate, seek independent legal, financial or other professional advice before acting. The Department has endeavoured to ensure the currency and completeness of the information in this tipsheet at the time of publication; however, this information may change over time. Provision of links to external websites are provided for convenience only and should not be construed as an endorsement or approval of the third party service or website by the Department. The Department expressly disclaims any liability caused, whether directly or indirectly, to any person in respect of any action taken on the basis of the content of this tipsheet.