

FAQ Summer Volunteering

I don't bike, paddle, or want to be on the water, can I still volunteer?

A: Absolutely! Some of our programs have opportunities to help in a non-sport related logistics role, these program include Paved Path Cycling, Going-to-the-Sun Road rides, Paddle Days, and Echo Lake Water Sports Week. This is a hugely helpful role for our team and is a great way to get to know the organization, participants, and meet other volunteers.

What are the volunteer requirements?

A: All volunteers regardless if they are a First Year Volunteer or Returning Volunteer are required to complete the following:

- a. A seasonal volunteer application
- b. Computer based training - waiver, code of conduct, passing a background check, completing sport protection training
- c. Attend a Summer Volunteer Orientation

How do I get started?

A: [Click Here](#) to submit your seasonal volunteer application through our Volunteer System called MyImpact. Our team has to manually approve applications, thank you for your patience with us!

How do I complete my computer based training requirements (liability waiver, background check, sport protection training)?

A: After submitting your application, log-in to your MyImpact account [HERE](#) (pro-tip bookmark this page for future use!). Then click on the tab "My Profile" on the upper right then click on "Training" you will find your waiver, code of conduct, background check, and sport protection training under "Training"

How do I sign up for volunteer opportunities?

A: After submitting your application, log-in to your MyImpact account [HERE](#) (pro-tip: bookmark this page for future use!). Then click on the tab "Opportunities" at the top of the page. This is where you will sign up for orientations, clinics, and volunteer opportunities. If you aren't seeing anything you may not have all of your computer based training completed.

I am not able to see anything on the Opportunity Calendar, why is this?

A: If you aren't seeing anything on the calendar it is probably one of three reasons:

- a. You haven't completed all of your computer based training - Go to the tab "My Profile" then down to "Training"
- b. You haven't submitted your seasonal volunteer application - [Click Here](#) to submit the application

- c. You aren't qualified for an opportunity (for example you may not be able to see advanced mountain bike rides if you didn't list yourself as an advanced rider)

I have never taught any of these summer activities before, can I still volunteer?

A: We would love to have you, we provide all training to set you up for success and provide a supportive, collaborative, and team oriented environment for you to learn and ask questions. Many of our summer programs are community and group oriented so you won't ever be fully by yourself there will always be others around.

What is the volunteer time commitment in the summer?

A: There is no minimum time commitment after completing the volunteer requirements. Although we don't require a minimum both volunteers and participants find the most success with consistency. Additionally, there are some perks for volunteering more consistently.

What is the summer incentive to volunteer?

A: The incentive is access to Outdoor ProLink for a year if you volunteer for 3+ opportunities in the summer. You also get to spend time outside with a rad group of people helping others access the outdoors!

I have never worked with people with disabilities before, do you provide any support or training on this?

A: Definitely, we understand this can be scary and intimidating, we provide all training on disability etiquette and techniques to support this population and to set you up for success and provide a supportive, collaborative, and team oriented environment for you to learn and ask questions. Information about disabilities is sprinkled throughout all training that we provide. Our team leads by example and models with appropriate language and how to provide assistance.

What level mountain biker do I need to be to volunteer?

A: We ask that for any of our cycling programs, including mountain biking, that volunteers can ride confidently and safely at a minimum intermediate level. We ride the following trails: Herron Park, Cedar Flats, Pig Farms, Harrell Forest, and Beaver Lakes. If you aren't sure if you are at this level, please reach out to us and we would be more than happy to help you find a way to join our team!

Working with kids makes me nervous is there another option?

A: Although a lot of our participants are kids, many of our participants are also adults with cognitive and/or physical disabilities. We also provide programs to Veterans with Disabilities who are often just looking for community.

Do I need to complete all online requirements before I can be at a program?

A: All online requirements (application, waiver, code of conduct, background check, sport protection training) must be completed prior to your first day with participants.

Where do the Paddle Days occur?

A: Paddle days will occur at Whitefish City Beach, Sommer's Picnic and Beach Area, and Apgar Picnic area at Lake McDonald.

Is there any cost to me to volunteer with DREAM?

A: There is no cost for you to volunteer, we cover all costs associated with training, including paying for your background check and sport protection training.

Will it be just me and a participant in a lesson? Or will there be another volunteer or staff member there also?

A: We try our absolute hardest to always have two volunteers with a participant. For First Year Volunteers we definitely prioritize this and will pair you with either a Returning Volunteer or another First Year Volunteer. Majority of our summer programs are group programs so there are lots of people around.

Do I need my own cycling equipment to volunteer for that program?

A: Whether you are volunteering for the paved path program or the mountain bike program, volunteers are required to have their own equipment in safe working condition including having their own helmet. Equipment requirements for the mountain bike program include having at least a bike with knobby tires and front suspension.

Do I need my own paddling equipment or life jacket?

A: We have limited paddling equipment and prioritize participant use of this equipment. If you have your own paddle board or kayak that is in safe working condition that definitely helps and is highly encouraged but not a mandatory requirement. We also have limited life jackets and encourage volunteers who have their own to bring them.

Questions? Email programs@dreamadaptive.org or call (406) 885-9539 ext. 2