

Frequently Asked Questions

Can I have a paper copy of the application?

Volunteer Services @ Swedish / Seattle operates on a paperless system and does not have paper applications.

I would like to shadow a physician or nurse. Can Volunteer Services arrange this for me?

Volunteer Services does not arrange Clinical Observation (or "shadowing") opportunities for individuals. For information about shadowing, please visit: <http://swedishonline.swedish.org/Departments/OT/Residency/Pages/default.aspx>, select the "Resources" tab, and click on "Observership Policy"

Can Volunteer Services arrange an internship for me?

Volunteer Services does not arrange Internships (or Externships). Please contact the **Clinical Education / Academic Affiliations** department at 206-386-3108.

What positions offer the most patient contact?

Information Desk and Patient Registration offer the highest and most consistent level of patient contact.

When can I volunteer?

Volunteer positions at Swedish are generally available between 7:00 a.m. and 7:00 p.m., Monday through Friday. Weekend and evening positions are available only on a *very* limited basis.

What is the minimum age for volunteering?

The minimum age for volunteers is 16. Volunteers who are under 18 years of age may not volunteer in clinical areas (patient care) and are limited to the Gift Shop or roles in Administrative areas until they turn 18.

Do you have a Teen program?

Swedish Seattle does not have a teen or summer-only program at this time.

I have special medical training as a (CNA, MA). Where can I utilize my skills?

Unfortunately, Swedish volunteers cannot provide direct patient care or provide any service to a patient that requires specialized medical training or licensing. Volunteers can only provide assistance to staff within strict compliance with the competencies created for the volunteer role.

Will my volunteer experience lead to a job at Swedish?

Although volunteering is a great way to build one's resume and experience, there is no guarantee that a volunteer role will lead to employment at Swedish. Volunteer Services has no connection to the Human Resources Department. *The services volunteers provide to the medical center are not the same as paid positions at Swedish.*

Will my volunteer assignment at Swedish help me get into medical school or nursing school?

Volunteering in a health care setting is an important first step to discovering if a career in medicine is right for you. The volunteer experience is subjective, based upon the amount of time you commit to the role and your own personal investment. Although our volunteer roles do not allow for direct physician contact or clinical observation, your volunteer experience may still allow you to gain a great deal of exposure to the environment of health care.

Do you provide Charity / Social Services?

Volunteer Services does not provide community charity or social services. If you are in need of services, please call the Seattle Department of Social and Health Services (DSHS) at 1-877-501-2233.