



# RIVERS SUPPORT AWARD SCHEME

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## Frequently asked questions...

### ***Where can I get an application form?***

You can collect forms from Broadfield Community Centre Monday – Friday mornings, Langley Green Community Centre on Tuesday mornings and from Starbucks (meeting room) in Crawley Town Centre on Wednesday mornings. Alternatively, you can download it from <http://riverslpc.org.uk/volunteering/>.

### ***Why do I need to volunteer?***

We understand that not everyone will be able to afford to pay for training which is why we do not want to exclude anyone based on their financial position. All we ask in return is a few hours of your time to do some voluntary work (minimum 4 hours per week).

### ***What if I am not available to volunteer on the days specified?***

One of the great things about us is that we are flexible! Where possible, we will try to find an arrangement which suits you. Based on your availability, we will try and organise alternative voluntary work with another organisation. However, we do request applicants to try their best to be available on Tuesdays and Thursdays 0945 to 1215 (term time) for the volunteering sessions.

### ***How will volunteering benefit me?***

Volunteering offers help to people in need and the community, but it also benefits you, the volunteer! Helping others can help reduce depression and stress, keep you mentally stimulated and provide a sense of purpose. Volunteering also gives you the opportunity to make new friends, learn new skills and make a positive difference to your community.

### ***Will my travel expenses for volunteering be reimbursed?***

Reimbursement of travel expenses is a discretionary decision by management made on a case-by-case basis.

#### ABOUT RIVERS LPC

We work towards empowering women to take up new challenges in life. The charity supports women who are socially excluded, not able to find assistance from other organisations or need help without the involvement of formal authorities.

### ***Is there an eligibility criteria for this scheme?***

There are no specific requirements as such, however, in order to take full benefit from the training, applicants will need to be able to speak English, and have basic literacy and numeracy skills. Other than that, a positive attitude and a willingness to learn and work with others is all we ask!

### ***Can I still apply for the scheme if I work part-time?***

Yes! However, you need to be able to attend the employment skills workshops on Fridays at 0930 to 1130 and have additional availability within the week to volunteer (ideally Tuesdays and Thursdays 0945 to 1215 term time).

### ***When does the scheme start?***

Volunteering will begin on Tuesday 10<sup>th</sup> January and the classroom-based training sessions will start on Friday 27<sup>th</sup> January – both are held at Broadfield Community Centre. However, we will still be welcoming applications after these start dates.

### ***What happens after I have submitted my application?***

Applicants will be invited to attend an informal interview. It will be an opportunity for us to get to know you a little better, discuss your application and reasons for applying to the scheme. It is also a chance for you to ask us any questions.

### ***What support will I get during the training?***

You will be supported by the training providers, mentors and other volunteers. If you require one-to-one support outside of the sessions, this can also be arranged at a mutually convenient time/place.

### ***What type of modules will be covered during the training?***

Examples of some of the modules include the following:

- Help with interview techniques
- Communication skills
- First Aid
- Equality and Diversity
- Safeguarding
- Help with your CV
- Customer service
- Work experience (within local area)

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