

Information blitz 4**Volunteer activities accumulate your own skills**

You can learn new things and skills while engaging in volunteer activities.

Many participants in volunteer activities have said that they have learned skills during the activities that have benefited their personal lives, as well. These skills may be helpful as regards, for example, friendships, studying, working life, or finding new objects of interest.

While engaged in volunteer activities, you will meet new people, and some of them may become your friends in the course of time. You will be introduced to totally novel thoughts, things, and places. Sometimes volunteers get to “have a peek behind the facades,” that is, places and tasks that are otherwise inaccessible.

As a volunteer, you can learn labor-market skills. You can try out, for instance, working as a club assistant or helping people of different ages. You will learn myriad skills when organizing events. You may also learn a new language or new work methods.

The organizer of volunteer activities is responsible for providing you with induction in and training for your tasks. Sometimes, you can also take additional training, such as first-aid or hygiene-passport training. These are skills that employers typically value.

As a volunteer, you can try out different tasks in a safe environment. You do not have to continue if the task does not feel suitable for you. It is good to know what is suitable for you and what isn't. Try!

You can ask your instructor to give you a certificate of your volunteer tasks. The certificate may be an added plus, for example, when you are applying for a job or a study place. You can use the certificate to tell about some of the things you have learned and are interested in.

