

## Why Volunteer?

The main benefit of volunteering is the chance to play an integral role in one of the most exciting events ever seen in the UK.

The Games will provide a unique and inspirational setting for volunteers to gain experience and develop their skills.

Note that:

- London 2012 will provide volunteers with free meals during their shifts.
- Each volunteer will be given an official uniform to wear and will have the opportunity to keep their uniform as a souvenir of their experience and contribution to the Games.
- Volunteers will need to secure their own accommodation throughout the Games and arrange and pay for their own transportation to and from the Games (although they will be entitled to free travel on public transport to and from their Games-time shifts).

## Volunteer Roles

There are four types of volunteers or 'Games Makers' involved in the delivery of the 2012 sailing events.

**International Technical Officials (ITO)** - this group of around 60 people are among the most qualified volunteers anywhere in the sailing world. They will be selected by ISAF to ensure that there is fair play in areas such as race management, umpiring and the International Jury.

**National Technical Official (NTO)** –about 150 highly skilled and qualified volunteers who will run the races, measure boats and lay marks. The race teams will be selected by the RYA, and confirmed by LOCOG and ISAF.

**Sport Specific Volunteers (SSV)** – are skilled volunteers, in both on and off the water roles, who have plenty of experience gained at National and International sailing events. About 400 people are required to assist with race administration, support the sailors & technical officials, marshalling, safety, driving RIBs and communications during the events. These volunteers will be selected by LOCOG.

*More detailed information about SSV roles will be available on this page soon.*

General Criteria for SSV's

- Experience at previous Olympics or World Class Sailing events
- Need to be available for the test event and/or 2011 Sail for Gold

**Generalist Volunteers** – Will make up the majority of the 'Games Makers' – and will not need any special skills or qualifications, but should bring passion and enthusiasm to the Games. There are almost 30 different teams – known as functional areas – within LOCOG that will need generalist volunteers during the Games, from Transport to Village Management, from Language Services to Sustainability.

Generalist volunteers might be given a role as a steward, radio operator or athlete escort. No previous volunteering experience is necessary for these roles, and full training will be provided.

LOCOG are responsible for selecting these people to ensure that everything 'shore-side' works smoothly for both the competitors and spectators during the Games.

## Key Criteria for London 2012 Volunteers

LOCOG aims to recruit volunteers who will bring passion, enthusiasm and energy to the Games, and who meet the following key criteria;

- 18 years old by 1 January 2012, although 1500 junior volunteers will also be recruited in 2011.
- Available to volunteer for a minimum of 10 days at either, or both, of the Games.
- Eligible to volunteer in the UK according to UK immigration laws.  
In other words have the right to live and work permanently in the UK; or
  - Hold a valid passport or identity card from a country in the European Economic Area; or
  - Be in the UK or coming to the UK to work in accordance with the UK Points Based system; or
  - Be in the UK for another reason to remain in the UK that allows you to work as a volunteer; or
  - Be providing specialist sports specific skills at the Games or have extensive previous Games experience and can meet the requirements for a sports visitor visa.
- Able to attend a minimum of three training sessions prior to the Games.
- Agree to, and pass, certain security and background checks.
- Applicants for specialist sport volunteer roles must additionally be available for the Test Event, which is planned to take place at Portland 31 July – 13 August 2011.

## Key dates

- July 2010** London 2012's official Volunteer Programme is launched on 27th. All applicants will be required to complete an application form.
- September 2010** Online Volunteer Application opens for all Volunteer roles.
- November 2010** LOCOG will begin to invite applicants to a selection event.
- January 2011 – February 2012** Selection events take place, where all invited applicants will be interviewed.
- July & August 2011** *Olympic Test Event for Sailing (31<sup>st</sup> July – 13<sup>th</sup> August)*
- October 2011** Offers will begin to be sent out to successful applicants.
- February 2012** Orientation training takes place.
- March 2012** Role specific training begins
- April 2012** Distribution of uniforms and accreditation passes commences
- June 2012** Venue training begins
- July – September 2012** Olympic and Paralympic Games