

Frequently Asked Questions about the NUEYS Volunteer Program

Written by Administrator

Monday, 28 February 2011 11:01 - Last Updated Friday, 23 August 2013 08:50



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- 1. What are the steps that I need to take to volunteer in Eritrea?**
- 2. What qualifications do I need to volunteer? What documents do you need to submit in order to volunteer?**
- 3. Once all of my documents are submitted and approved, how long after can I expect to start my volunteer assignment?**
- 4. How is my volunteer assignment selected? Can I be assigned to an organization that I place as a priority or will I be randomly assigned?**
- 5. Will I receive acknowledgement once my volunteer service is completed?**
- 6. Will I receive assistance/information support regarding housing, adjusting to living in Eritrea, and other important information I need to know as a volunteer?**
- 7. As a volunteer, am I allowed to design my own schedule?**
- 8. When I start my work assignment, what are some duties that I am responsible for?**
- 9. Do volunteers have an orientation? What does it consist of?**
- 10. How often are there volunteer outings?**
- 11. How about if I'd like to do national service?**

1. What are the steps that I need to take to volunteer in Eritrea?

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In order to place volunteers and interns in projects that suit their educational background, skills and work experience, as well as the needs of host offices, interested candidates should send the NUEYS Foreign Affairs Department their CV/resume and a motivation letter. In the motivation letter, you should be able to describe what you would like to do, how long you are planning to stay, and what you hope to gain from the experience. Send these documents to the NUEYS Foreign Affairs Department via email (nueys.eritrea@gmail.com).

In order for us to smoothly facilitate for you to volunteer/intern, it's preferable that you send us your documents 2 months prior to your arrival in Eritrea.

2. What qualifications do I need to volunteer? What documents do you need to submit in order to volunteer?

The main qualification you need to have in order to volunteer: the desire to give back to your society and country! Other qualifications that you might have should be reflected in your resume and motivation letter. According to your qualifications, the FA Dept will advise you on your options of where you can volunteer.

Documents you need to submit in order to volunteer:

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- CV/Resume;
- Motivation letter;
- Supporting letter from the Eritrean Embassy or Consulate nearest you.

3. Once all of my documents are submitted and approved, how long after can I expect to start my volunteer assignment?

After sending us your documents, we will reply to your email within 2 weeks. After receiving our feedback, please make sure to reply to our email as soon as possible. With continuous correspondence, we can guarantee you that you will be able to start your volunteer assignment as soon as you arrive in Eritrea. If you require some time to settle in upon your arrival, please let us know.

If you are already in Eritrea and will like to volunteer, you may come to our office and submit your documents in person. The time it will take for your documents to be approved and for you to be assigned to a volunteer/internship post can take a maximum of 2 weeks, but our staff will make sure that you are able to volunteer as soon as possible.

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4. How is my volunteer assignment selected? Can I be assigned to an organization that I place as a priority or will I be randomly assigned?

Your volunteer assignment is based on your experience, qualifications, and interests. You may be assigned to an organization that you place as a priority; if you do have a particular preference, please make it clear in your motivation letter. If for any reason we are not able to place you in the organization you prefer, we will let you know and suggest other volunteer assignments that fit closely to your needs and expectations.

5. Will I receive acknowledgement once my volunteer service is completed?

Yes, you will receive acknowledgement once you've completed your volunteer service. NUEYS will provide you with a reference letter and a certificate.

6. Will I receive assistance/information support regarding housing, adjusting to living in Eritrea, and other important information I need to know as a volunteer?

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If you need assistance/information support regarding housing, adjusting to living in Eritrea, and other similar information, NUEYS will provide you with it. At this time, we cannot provide monetary assistance or free/low-fare housing, but we will assist you in finding any information or assistance that will allow you to make the most out of your stay in Eritrea.

7. As a volunteer, am I allowed to design my own schedule?

Commitment and dedication are required of all volunteers. Therefore, volunteers are expected to demonstrate their commitment and dedication by contributing as much as they can at the office/organization they are assigned to. Volunteers are expected to complete all assignments given to them to the best of their ability. Your schedule as a volunteer should be designed accordingly.

However, we do not expect volunteers to keep a rigid full-time schedule throughout their entire stay in Eritrea. On the contrary, we want volunteers to make the most out of their stay in Eritrea. Many volunteers like to take time off to travel around the country and to visit relatives. If you would like to design your own volunteering schedule, then please inform the Foreign Affairs Department. Also, if you need the extra time to travel and visit relatives, please just inform us before hand. Together we will design a schedule that best fits your needs and expectations as well as that of your volunteer post/assignment.

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8. When I start my work assignment, what are some duties that I am responsible for?

The duties you are responsible for are basically related to your work assignment, but all volunteers are expected to sustain proper work etiquette (punctuality, finish assignments before deadlines, respect and proper use of all work equipment, etc.). Also, keep in mind that you will be expected to fill out a 'Background Information' form upon your arrival to Eritrea and a 'Volunteer Feedback' form upon the completion of your volunteer assignment. You should also keep regular contact with the Foreign Affairs Department throughout your whole stay in Eritrea.

9. Do volunteers have an orientation? What does it consist of?

Yes, volunteers do have an orientation before they start their assignment. First and foremost, all volunteers are given a detailed orientation and tour of the NUEYS headquarters. If you are assigned to a different administrative zone than the Central Zone, you will also receive an orientation and tour of the respective NUEYS zonal office.

When assigned to a post outside of NUEYS, the Foreign Affairs Department will make sure that you receive a detailed orientation of the organization, your work environment and your work responsibilities right before you start volunteering.

10. How often are there volunteer outings?

The Foreign Affairs Department tries to organize volunteer outings as much as possible. Depending on the various NUEYS activities happening around the country, NUEYS will assure your participation in many of them. This means that there will be opportunities to travel around the country to witness firsthand how Eritrean youth contribute to the development of their country, their community and themselves. The Foreign Affairs Department also organizes monthly get-togethers so that volunteers can get to know each other and share their experiences with one another.

11. How about if I'd like to do national service?

The NUEYS Foreign Affairs Department does facilitate for Eritrean youth in the Diaspora to do their national service. If this is what you desire, then please contact the Foreign Affairs Department directly. It is not always possible for youth to do their military/national service at any time during the year; you must do it in accordance with the national program of national service. Therefore, it is best that you contact the Foreign Affairs Department well in advance.

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For more information about the NUEYS Volunteer Program, check out the [frequently asked questions](#) about the program. You may also contact the NUEYS Foreign Affairs Department.

Foreign Affairs Department

NUEYS Central Office

P.O. Box 1042 Asmara, Eritrea

Email. nueys.eritrea@gmail.com

Tel. +291-1-122118 Fax. +291-1-125981