



VOLUNTEERING

Western Wishes® relies on its generous and energetic volunteers to give of their time, talent and imagination. It is with the help of our dedicated volunteers that we are able to grant the wishes of children with serious medical conditions and critical injuries and to enrich the human experience with hope, strength and joy.

Volunteers assist in various areas alongside staff members and other volunteers. They serve our chapters in a variety of capacities, including wish granting, office administrative support, internships, special event planning or coordinating, development and fundraising and much more. You must be at least 18-years-old to volunteer - please see Steps to Volunteering for more information. There are a limited number of opportunities for volunteers under the age of 18. Applicants who are minors will be considered as positions for volunteers who are minors are available.

By volunteering with Western Wishes, you will have the opportunity to contribute your valuable skills and expertise and bring unforgettable moments of joy to the lives of our wish children.

Complete a Volunteer Application to get started today!

Steps to Volunteer

Step 1 - Volunteer Application

If you are interested in becoming a volunteer, please fill out a Volunteer Application that requests contact information, special skills information and an interest checklist.

Step 2 - Complete a Background Check

We require our volunteers to pass a background check to protect the safety and privacy of our wish kids. A copy of your current driver's license or photo ID must also be submitted with your application.

Step 3 - Meet With a Western Wishes Staff Member or Chapter Director

All prospective volunteers need to meet with a staff member or chapter director to discuss current volunteer opportunities and to sign a Volunteer Agreement and a Liability Waiver. At that meeting you will receive an overview of the Western Wishes mission and programs.

STEP 4 - Get Involved!

Once you have completed the volunteer process, sign up for opportunities in your area and begin volunteering!! You may choose to volunteer in one or more of the following areas:



VOLUNTEERING

General Volunteer

Generalists are volunteers who lend their time to assist with local Western Wishes® events or day-to-day office tasks including community outreach, public relations support, helping with logistics for Western Wishes events, community outreach activities, preparing mailings in the office, etc. Generalist volunteers roll up their sleeves to do a variety of support tasks that help raise funds, create awareness about Western Wishes and help leave a legacy of goodwill the cowboy way!

Wish Granter

Wish Granters work with Western Wishes staff and chapter directors to complete the wish granting process. They work alongside staff in planning and executing the children's wishes including recruiting nominations, gathering recipient information, making arrangements for wishes, and assisting with the wish events. Please note: This specialist role varies in need by region.

Events, Fundraising and Outreach

Event Committee Volunteers help through hands-on events support, stewardship, recognition support. These volunteers assist with raising funds across the region in which they live or on a national scale.

Speakers Bureau Members

Speaker's Bureau members are volunteers who are trained to speak publicly on behalf of Western Wishes at various events to promote awareness of our mission, raise funds and/or recruit volunteers.

Ambassadors of Hope

Ambassadors of Hope also speak on behalf of the chapter. They are wish kids and family members who have completed a Western Wishes experience and feel inspired to share their wish story with others or mentor other children who are facing serious injury and/or physical challenges.

Administration

Office Administration volunteers are needed to help with paperwork, database entry and other office tasks during the workweek. They help us to keep administrative costs to a minimum so that more of our funding can be applied to our wish program.

If you have any questions, please contact our office or send an e-mail to becca@westernwishes.org. We look forward to hearing from you!



VOLUNTEERING

Volunteer Application

All fields are required to be filled out accurately prior to becoming a Western Wishes volunteer. Incomplete applications will not be processed.

PLEASE PRINT

Last Name: _____

First Name: _____

Middle Name: _____

Mailing Address: _____ Apt: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip Code: _____

Home Telephone: _____

Cell Number: _____

Business Telephone: _____

E-mail Address: _____

Spouse Name: _____

Demographic Information (*must be completed by any applicant who will be in direct contact with our wish recipients*):

Maiden Name (if applicable): _____

Date of Birth: _____

Social Security Number: _____ - _____ - _____



VOLUNTEERING

Name of person to contact in case of an emergency:

Name: _____

Relationship: _____

Telephone Numbers to call: Day: _____

Evening: _____

Employer: _____

Address: _____

Position: _____ Years: _____

Supervisor's Name: _____

Contact Information: _____

Education: (Please fill in based on your current level of education.)

I have completed: High School College Post Grad

*If applicable, please list what academic year you are in currently:

Freshman Sophomore Junior Senior

I need _____ volunteer hours for school/college credit.

Please list the name of the college/university you graduated from or are attending:



VOLUNTEERING

Health Information:

Physician's Name: _____

Telephone Number: (_____)_____

Please list the medications that you are currently taking:

Is there any health reason that might limit your ability to volunteer? Yes No

If yes, please describe: _____

Please check off the infectious illnesses you have had:

Measles Mumps Rubella Chicken Pox

Diphtheria Polio Tetanus Whooping Cough

Please check the infectious illnesses you have been immunized for:

Measles Mumps Rubella Chicken Pox

Diphtheria Polio Tetanus Whooping Cough

How did you hear about volunteering for Western Wishes?

Please check which one applies: WW Volunteer WW Staff WW Website

WW Employee Newspaper TV Radio Work

School/College Other...please explain: _____



VOLUNTEERING

Volunteer interests:

Please describe in detail why are you interested in volunteering for Western Wishes?

Interests/skills/experience and availability:

Would you prefer to volunteer: with children with families

with staff in support areas Please denote which specific area: _____

Please list your experiences or skills that relate to the preference indicated previously:

Please list your current volunteer roles with location (if any) and list your previous volunteer roles:



VOLUNTEERING

Please circle the days and times that you are available to volunteer:

Mornings: Monday Tuesday Wednesday Thursday Friday Saturday Sunday

Afternoons: Monday Tuesday Wednesday Thursday Friday Saturday Sunday

Evenings: Monday Tuesday Wednesday Thursday Friday Saturday Sunday

Are you available/interested in supporting Western Wishes at Special Events?

No Yes Morning Afternoon Evening Weekend

Are you willing to assist with projects such as mailings or office work?

No Yes Morning Afternoon Evening Weekend

References:

Please print the **COMPLETE** mailing addresses of three people we may contact (excluding **relatives and roommates**) who have known you for more than two years. Local references preferred.

Name: _____ Relationship: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Telephone: (____) _____

Name: _____ Relationship: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Telephone: (____) _____



VOLUNTEERING

Name: _____ Relationship: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Telephone: (____) _____

Western Wishes reserves the right to conduct state and federal background checks on any individual who will be in direct contact with our wish recipients.

Have you ever been arrested on a sexually related offense? No Yes

If yes, please list the date(s) of the arrest(s) and any facts and circumstances surrounding the arrest(s). Being arrested does not automatically exclude you from consideration. If you meet the requirements, you will be able to explain the circumstances of your arrest. If you are subsequently arrested for conducting or attempting to conduct a sexual offense during the course of your volunteer services for Western Wishes, you agree to notify the national office and your chapter director. Failure to do so will result in termination.

Have you ever been convicted, plead no contest, or plead guilty to a felony or misdemeanor? No Yes



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Volunteer Privacy Information and Release Authorization

PLEASE READ CAREFULLY

Application information

I certify that all information in this application is true and complete.

I understand that any false information or omission may disqualify me from further consideration for volunteer service and may result in my dismissal, if discovered, at a later date.

References

I understand that Western Wishes requires information from me to evaluate my qualifications for volunteer service.

I authorize and release personal references, employers (past and present), and, if necessary, other applicable entities to answer questions in regards to volunteer work, employment, ability, character, medical and emotional background and, if applicable, driving history.

Background investigation

I understand, in consideration of my application, a background investigation will be conducted if I am requesting a volunteer position that will put me in direct contact with wish recipients.

I understand this investigation may include, but is not limited to, a criminal background check in the files of any Federal, state or local justice agency, driving history, performance of medical examinations, drug screening or reference verification.

I authorize Western Wishes and its chapters to conduct the background investigation and release the organization and its affiliates from responsibility for this investigation.



VOLUNTEERING

I understand the requested information is for the sole purpose of gathering accurate information for volunteer services for Western Wishes and its chapters.

I have read and understand the above and by my signature consent to these statements.

Applicant Signature

Date

Background Checks:

In an effort to create a safe environment for wish recipients, celebrities, donors and employees, Western Wishes conducts a national and county criminal background investigation on any volunteer who will be coming in direct contact with wish recipients. This investigation may include arrests and convictions. This report is kept confidential.