



Volunteering

See all our volunteer jobs at: apply.mercyships.org



Some of your questions answered



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How long can I volunteer for?

This depends on how long you are available and the role you are applying for. Some roles need volunteers for as little as 2 weeks (e.g. Dental and Operating Theatre teams) and some are longer term. Most roles start from 3 months onwards. Search for yours at: apply.mercyships.org

All our roles have a preferred minimum commitment listed on the job description. This is a guideline of how long we need to fill that role for without disrupting work on the ship. Whilst we have a minimum preferred commitment, you are welcome to volunteer for longer.

French Teacher

Location: Africa Mercy
Department: Academy
Preferred Minimum Commitment: 2 Years

More Info



Host / Hostess

Location: Africa Mercy
Department: Crew & Guest Services
Preferred Minimum Commitment: 3 Months

More Info



Not available right now? Join our talent pool

We are always looking for people to help bring hope and healing to the forgotten poor. If you would like to volunteer but are not yet sure when you would be available, you can join our talent pool. You apply to serve with us at some point in the future, whenever you are ready. Once you are in the talent pool, you will be the first to hear when your preferred role is available.

To join the talent pool, submit an application online. As part of the application we ask you for your provisional availability (you can always update this once you've set up your profile). You simply tell us when and how long you would like to volunteer for (e.g. 3 months between November 2020 - June 2026). Once submitted your application will be considered taking into account your availability, no matter how far it is in the future.

What job could I do onboard?

There are over 200 jobs on board, and **only half of them are medical!**
We are looking for people from all fields and backgrounds to serve with us.

Technical & Skilled Labour

Mechanic
Plumber
Electrician
Sheet Metal Worker
Captain
Electronics Technician
Chief, Second, Third Officer
Chief, Second, Third, Fourth Engineer

General

Receptionist
Hospitality Staff
IT Support Specialists
Photographer
Videographer
Catering & Food Services
Hairdresser
Teachers – primary & secondary

Medical

Decontamination Technician
Sterile Services Technician
Biomedical Engineer
Paediatric Ward Nurse
Paediatric ICU Ward Nurse
Hospital Informatics Manager
Theatre Nurse Team Leaders –Orthopaedics,
Plastics, General, Women's Health

We have many different departments that you could volunteer in.

Visit apply.mercyships.org to search through all the jobs available in each department:

Academy (school on the ship)
Accounting
Capacity Building Support Programs
Capacity Building Support Projects
Chaplaincy
Communications
Crew & Guest Services (Hospitality)
Dental
Executive
Eye Team
Food Services
HOPE Centre (Outpatients Centre)
Hospital
Hospital Admissions
Human Resources
Information Services
Marine Deck
Marine Engineering
Medical Capacity Building
Operating Room (Theatre)
Operating Room Sterilisation
Operations
Palliative Care
Physiotherapy
Program Administration
Purser – Reception
Rehab
Rehab Team
Screening
Ship Shop & Gift Shop Sales
Staff Development
Supply
Transportation
Ward

Do I have the right qualifications?

Our hospital ships are considered passenger ships and we have to abide by international maritime law. You may see a job description that requires an STCW certificate (e.g. Successful completion of Crowd Management in accordance with STCW A-V/2-1). Don't be concerned if you see this requirement on any role. We can help you get these certificates.

Got a specific question?

We have created an online community, [myMercy](#), where you can connect with people who are considering volunteering, are currently volunteering and former volunteer crew members! On [myMercy](#) you can also ask questions to staff members. There are blogs, discussions and FAQs about a wide range of topics. Sign up and connect with the community on [mymercy.mercyships.org](#)

How much will it cost me to volunteer?

There are two main costs to bear in mind: **travel costs** to the country where the ship is docked & **living costs** for accommodation and food on the ship.

When it comes to your living costs (or crew fees), this depends on how long you're volunteering for and whether you've volunteered in the past. Long-term & returning volunteers get a discount. You can see a full breakdown of the costs [here](#).





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