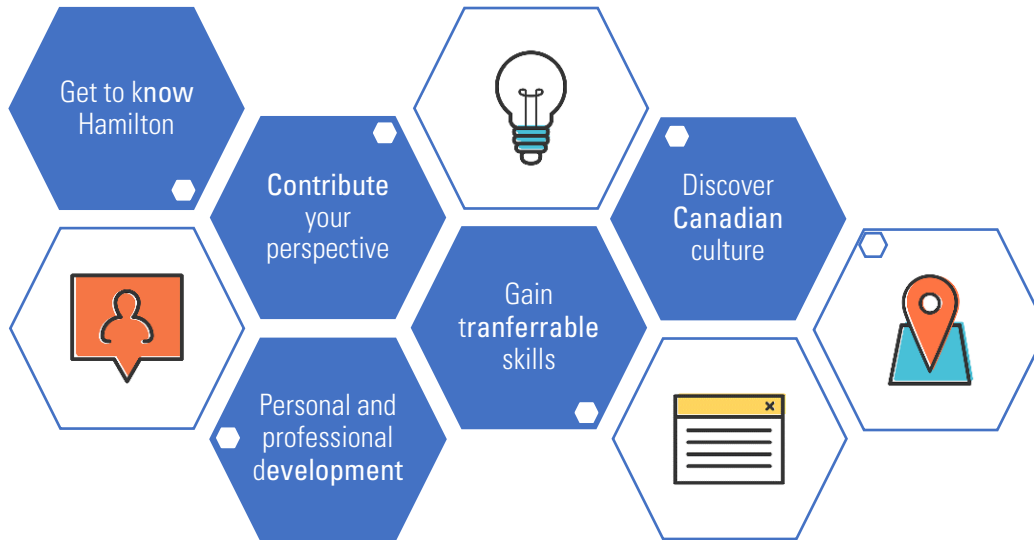


Volunteer Requirements and Opportunities: International Students



Are there requirements for volunteering in Canada?

Check with the organization you are interested in volunteering with to find out if you will require any of the following:

Work Permits

- Some volunteer placements may require you to have a work permit
- Visit this page for more information: [Volunteer work conducted by foreign students: When is a work permit and an ESDC confirmation required?](#)
- If you still have questions about your eligibility to volunteer in Canada, please contact immigration@mcmaster.ca.

Police check

In Hamilton, you can visit Central Station (155 King William St., Hamilton, ON, L8R 1A7) to obtain a police check. You must bring:

- Proof that you are a student at McMaster (e.g., student card, transcript).
- Proof that you currently reside in Hamilton (e.g., rental statement showing your address).
- A letter from the agency you plan to volunteer at, which proves you will be volunteering with them.



If you have tried this and cannot obtain a police check in Hamilton, you will need to obtain one from the RCMP. Visit this page for more information: [Royal Canadian Mounted Police – Criminal record checks](#).

Tuberculosis (TB) test

McMaster students can obtain a TB skin test through the Student Wellness Centre (PGCLL, enter through the McMaster Children's Centre entrance). Call 905-525-9140, extension 27700.

You must have UHIP coverage or other Canadian provincial health insurance in order to access the services at the Student Wellness Centre. Visit this page for more information: [McMaster Student Success Centre – International Student Services – Health Insurance \(UHIP\)](#).

Ideas to get started in volunteering

Off-campus opportunities

- The Welcome Inn Community Centre
- Wentworth Lodge
- Macassa Lodge
- St. Joseph's Hospital
- Children's International Learning Centre
- Lunch After School Program
- Neighbour2Neighbour Centre
- CityKidz
- YWCA Hamilton

On-campus opportunities

- Mac Soup Kitchen
- McMaster Make Believe
- Open Circle McMaster
- Best Buddies
- Mac Bread Bin
- McMaster Physical Activity
- Centre of Excellence (PACE)
- OPIRG McMaster
- McMaster Children and Youth University (MCYU)

Additional resources and services

- [Global Connect Hamilton](#): Enables international students to access opportunities in order to live, work and play in Hamilton
- [Student Success Centre](#): Visit the experience-building and volunteering section on the Student Success Centre website



- [OSCARplus](#): Discover both on- and off-campus volunteering opportunities
- [Charity Village](#): Search short and long-term local volunteering opportunities
- Email volunteer@mcmaster.ca any time with your questions.

