

AbilityNet Volunteer Coordinator Role Profile

AbilityNet, an award-winning UK charity is looking for volunteer coordinators to manage and expand the IT volunteer service.

Our Vision

Do you have a passion for the power of technology? Our vision is to create a world in which digital services are equally accessible to all.

As an AbilityNet Coordinator you and your team can help unleash the power of technology to ensure that older and disabled people are not excluded from the digital world.

“One of your advisors, Trevor, has been helping me with some very basic computer skills on a tablet that I have hardly touched since it was bought for me as a present from my wife. I suffer from Parkinson’s and it is very difficult for me to concentrate. Trevor has been extremely kind and patient and has opened up a world I hardly knew existed.” - AbilityNet client

"Volunteering at AbilityNet gives me the opportunity to build upon my experience and skills in various Assistive Technologies, which in turn enables people to live a healthy and productive life - it's a truly rewarding and inspiring environment."
- Greg White, AbilityNet volunteer, Manchester

Overview

All across the UK our 350+ volunteers support older and/or disabled people at home to offer one-to-one support with their technology, whether that's a computer, laptop, smartphone or tablet. They trouble shoot technical issues, offer impartial advice on technology, set up new tech and install hardware and software, show people how to use their tech at home e.g. shop online, send and receive emails and video call with family and friends and make adaptations to support a disabled person's specific technology needs.

Each area has a volunteer Coordinator at the helm, managing the balance of client requests and volunteer resource to ensure each client's IT needs are met in a timely and effective manner.

What will I be doing?

- Creating local awareness by publicising the service to, for example, disability charity organisations, libraries, community centres etc. this could include making phone calls, popping in to introduce yourself and the service, or presenting/attending events or meetings.
- Using our online ticketing system to allocate and manage client requests within our Service Level Aims.
- Communicating with clients to provide updates on volunteer availability and any issues or delays to their ticket resolution.
- Reviewing monthly figures and trends and react appropriately with promotions and recruitment to fill gaps in service.
- Contacting, interviewing and feeding back on potential volunteers.
- Supporting and motivating your local volunteer team through team meetings and regular contact.

- Attending ad-hoc company events or meetings.
- Approving volunteers' expenses.
- Undertaking client IT support (if you also wish to be a Tech volunteer).

What skills do I need?

- A passion to help others.
- Great organisational skills.
- The ability to communicate and network with people from different organisations.
- Self-motivated and the ability to hit the ground running.
- Some marketing / communications experience would be beneficial.
- Presentation skills.

What are the benefits to me?

As an AbilityNet Coordinator you can:

- Change the lives of disabled and older people in your local area.
- Develop your management, marketing and communication skills.
- Benefit from technology and disability training.
- Network with a nationwide team of other Coordinators and IT volunteers.
- Be flexible with your volunteering and plan it around your other work and home commitments.

How much time will I need to offer?

On average a Coordinator undertakes around 8-12 hours of volunteering a month, this can be flexible and fit around work and home commitments. Some of this will be from home, other time will be spent meeting new volunteers and/or visiting local organisations and groups which could be in or out of work hours, in the evenings and/or weekends to suit your other commitments.

What else do I need to know?

- We pay travel expenses at 45p per mile, or reimburse for public transport.
- As you will be helping vulnerable adults you'll need an enhanced DBS check (England and Wales) PVG (Scotland), or Access NI check (Northern Ireland), which will be renewed/checked every 2 years (at no cost to you as a volunteer)

What should I do next?

If you think you have what it takes to be an AbilityNet Coordinator [apply online](#). You will be contacted by the Free Services Team to arrange an informal interview.

If you would like more information, or to chat further about the volunteer role contact the AbilityNet Free Services team on 0800 048 7642, or email volunteers@abilitynet.org.uk