

# RSPCA NSW Volunteering FAQs



## THEIR FUTURE

We will be there for the animals who need us most.



## YOUR FUTURE

We will help empower you to make a difference to animals.



## OUR FUTURE

We will nurture a strong and passionate RSPCA NSW team.

## Why are volunteers so important?

Volunteers are at the heart of what RSPCA NSW does. In the 2020/21 financial year, 1,982 volunteers and foster carers donated their time, energy, love and commitment to animals and pet owners around the state.

They assisted with the day-to-day operations of our Shelters, Care Centre and Op shops, they provided loving home environments for animals to grow, mature and recover, and they utilised their professional skills or hobbies. They ran branches and crucial fundraising drives in their townships. They created showstopping artwork, and they helped answer calls asking for bushfire assistance.

Every day, our volunteers fundraise and champion the RSPCA NSW name within their local communities – giving a voice to the abandoned, neglected and injured animals who need them.

The work our volunteers do is invaluable and creates a life-changing difference to animals in need. Simply put: RSPCA NSW wouldn't exist without the helping hand of our amazing volunteers.

## How old do I have to be to volunteer with RSPCA NSW?

Generally, the minimum age to volunteer is 16. However, some roles have specific requirements or tasks that require a volunteer to be over 18. If this is the case, the age will be noted in the volunteer role description.

If you're under 16, don't lose your enthusiasm! You can get involved with RSPCA NSW with your parent/guardian or through our [Education and School Holiday Programs](#). Don't forget to apply as a volunteer when you're old enough – we'd love to have you!

## Can I do my work placement, work experience or Duke of Edinburgh through volunteering with you?

RSPCA NSW has limited resources to meet the requirements or level of oversight involved with work placement, work experience or Duke of Edinburgh. Enquiries for any of these is done on a case by case base dependent on our resources.

If you're looking to get credit for study, RSPCA NSW does offer a Certificate II in Animal Studies via selected facilities throughout the year. You can find out more information about this program [here](#).

## How can I arrange a volunteering day for a group of my co-workers?

RSPCA NSW runs Corporate Support Days for companies to come and volunteer in our shelters. To enquire about our Corporate Support Days, please visit our website [here](#).

Corporate Support Days are coordinated separately from our Volunteer Team.

## What checks do I need to complete to become a volunteer?

In specific volunteer roles, you may be required to provide additional information or undergo checks, such as:

- NSW Working with Children Check
- National Criminal History Check
- A current NSW drivers' licence
- Previous relevant experience or training in a specific field of work

All requirements to volunteer roles will be listed in the role description.

## Am I covered by insurance if I am volunteering?

You sure are! Approved RSPCA NSW volunteers are covered by public liability and personal accident insurance while they are completing their agreed volunteer tasks. Please note that personal items and vehicles are excluded.

## Is RSPCA NSW able to verify my volunteering hours for Centrelink?

RSPCA NSW is uses a volunteer management platform, My Impact, that can be used for verification of voluntary work for Centrelink purposes.

## What can RSPCA NSW provide as proof of volunteering?

If you require proof of volunteering (whether for employment or other official purposes), you can request a Statement of Volunteering via [volunteer@rspcansw.org.au](mailto:volunteer@rspcansw.org.au).

RSPCA NSW are unable to provide over-the-phone references.