Community Champions

Overview of role…

We are looking for enthusiastic volunteers across the world to help us promote the Students Association and engage with our student community at a grassroot level.

OU Students are automatically members of the OU Students Association. As an Association Ambassador you would help promote the Association and share our activities through your student networks.

Whether you are totally new to the Association or have previous experience volunteering with us, you can help our community to grow. You won’t be expected to know about everything we do.

If you would like to help students connect with each other and to build awareness of the Student Association, this role is for you!

Essential for role:

Students who are interested in becoming more involved in the OU Student Community and enjoy talking to other students (online or face to face) are perfect for this role.

Supported by:

You will be supported in your role from VP Community, Area Representatives and our Volunteering Team. Contact details can be found in your volunteer handbook.

Main responsibilities:

We would like our volunteers to have the flexibility to pick how heavily involved they would like to be in this role. If you would like to volunteer but are not able to offer much time or commitment, level 1 could be perfect for you. If you would like to get involved with some of the more hands on volunteering, you can join as a level 2 Ambassador. You can also change from one to the other at any time.

Level 1

- Chatting online about the Students Association and signposting students to our services
- Attend online events
• Promoting Association events and support services in conversation to students (avoiding spam in groups/pages/forums)
• Keeping in touch with students in your area and promoting local events
• Contribute stories or information to the volunteer newsletter

Level 2

As above, you will engage with student online to promote what the Association can do for students. At level 2 it would also be great for you to be involved in the following:

• Where possible, attend local ‘Meet and Greets’, local meet-ups and local OU Consultations to signpost and encourage student engagement with the Students Association
• Consider running a stall or be present at events or presentations run by the Association (most likely on campus in Milton Keynes)
• Encourage attendance at local events by arranging trips etc… For example a trip to a free museum or local exhibit
• Projects in the community alongside the Volunteer Team

Desired skills:

• Good communication skills
• Passion for the OU Students Association mission statement and objectives
• A willingness to engage with new students
• Ability to work independently and as part of a team

What the OU Students Association expect from you in this role:

• To act professionally whilst in your role
• To ensure that you act in a way which reflects our commitment to Equality and Diversity (our expectations of volunteers can be found in your handbook)
• To try and attend events (online or face to face) at least 4 times a year

What you can expect from the OU Students Association:

• Support from the Area Representatives, Vice President Community and the Association staff team in Milton Keynes throughout your time as a Champion
• Access to the volunteer e-newsletter to inform you of what’s going on in the Students Association
- A volunteer handbook outlining all polices and support you can access. Within this will be a guide to the Association and the services they offer, to help you in your role.
- An induction and full training appropriate to your role, this will include the opportunity to attend online training and support sessions.
- We will reimburse all reasonable expenses.
- To develop transferable skills and confidence.
- When you start in this role you will receive a guide to the Association and its services and will have the opportunity to take part in an online introductory training session.
- You will receive regular support from an Area Association Representative who will be there to help you throughout your time as a volunteer in this role.
- You will have the opportunity to network with other Community Champions through a dedicated online forum.
- Meet other student and have fun!

**Application Process:**

Please complete the online application form. Alternative formats are available on request, please contact us on oustudents-volunteer@open.ac.uk.