

BECOMING A VOLUNTEER

All volunteers must be registered, approved and active in the school district volunteer database.

VOLUNTEER APPLICATION & APPROVAL PROCESS

To be approved as a Sarasota County School District volunteer, an individual first must apply. Returning volunteers must reactivate their account at the beginning of each school year.

For security and speedier processing, the school district provides a computer-based system through which potential volunteers can apply at home, on a designated computer at the school site, or the district Office of Community Involvement. Those interested in volunteering in schools must apply and be approved **for all volunteer services**. Completing this process does not guarantee a volunteer placement. Approved volunteers serve with the permission of the principal/school-based administrator.

Application and reactivation to volunteer automatically prompts a Level 1 Sexual Offender background screening, which is required for all volunteers, at no cost to the volunteer

➤ **Level 1 National Sexual Offender Check** - This screening is automatically prompted upon applying to volunteer. Individuals desiring volunteer assignments in school system facilities must provide social security numbers and other personal information required to perform background screenings including but not limited to a national sexual offender check. **Please note, you will be asked to go to a school or the district Safety and Security Office at the Landings to present a form of identification to confirm that your application is true and accurate.** The school district reserves the right to refuse volunteer assignments to individuals who fail to meet standards established by School District Policy 6.39. Those who do not pass the background screening will receive written notification from the school district Safety and Security Department.

➤ **Level 2 National Criminal Background Screening** - Volunteers who work with students in an **unsupervised** (out of sight or hearing of supervising staff) school-based setting and volunteer chaperones on **all overnight field trips** and **some daytime field trips** are required to pass a Level 2 national criminal background screening (fingerprints for criminal background check) in addition to being registered in the school district volunteer database and approved through the district School Safety and Security Department. The school staff will inform you for which daytime field trips Level 2 is required. Please contact the district's Safety and Security Department to make arrangements for Level 2 screening.

SLA has a computer in the reception area that can be used to register with Volunteers Count! And does the RAPTOR screening.

To become a volunteer, please go to:

https://volunteer.samaritan.com/custom/528/#/opp_details/6853?udf3355=SCS%20Staff,SCS%20Student,Parent,Volunteer,Mentor&sortPredicate=publishDateUtc&sortByAttribute=date&sortRecordType=opp&view=list