



Spring & Summer 2026

Our application period for the Spring and Summer Volunteer Schedules is now closed. We truly appreciate your desire to be part of our volunteer team.

Our next onboarding cycle will take place in **late Summer/early Fall**. Please check back **after June 1st, 2026** for updated information and important upcoming dates.

Thank you again for your willingness to serve—we hope to connect with you in the next cycle!

For those of you who have been invited to interview for the Spring and Summer Schedules see the information below for important dates to know.

2026 Spring & Summer Onboarding Schedule at a Glance		Volunteer Requirements
Important Dates to Know		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The combined Spring/Summer 2026 schedule runs for 31 weeks, requires 1 shift/week for 27 out of the 31 weeks. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> We will be able to accommodate school schedule changes between the Spring and Summer semesters for students. Successful interview, background check, and health clearance. Proof of the following vaccines and immunizations* need to be brought to your interview: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Flu Shot (October – March) Tdap (Tetanus, Diphtheria, Pertussis) MMR (Measles, Mumps, Rubella) Hepatitis B Varicella Ability to attend role specific orientations and training shifts. Please note that sometimes these training shifts may fall outside the shift time that you choose. Once you've completed training, you'll be put into your selected schedule. <p>*Please do not get any additional vaccinations until you've spoken with EHS and note that there are no exemptions accepted for volunteer roles.</p>
Application Opens	November 14 th , 2025 @ 3pm	
Application Closes	December 5 th , 2025 @ noon	
In-Person Interviews	December 1 st , 2025– January 9 th , 2026	
In-Person Health Appointments	December 8 th – January 16 th , 2026	
New Volunteer Orientation (each orientation is limited to 40 people)	Option 1: January 19 th , 2026 10am – 3pm Option 2: January 20 th , 2026 10am – 3pm Option 3: January 21 st , 2026 10am – 3pm	
HELP/Team UP Orientation	Option 1: January 26 th , 10am-4pm Option 2: February 3 rd , 10am-4pm Option 3: February 8 th , 1pm-5pm (NL)	
At Your Service Orientation	Option 1: January 22 nd , 2026 9:30-11:30am Option 2: January 23 rd , 2026 4:30-6:30pm	
Digestive Health Emergency Services & Infusion Orientation	Option 1: January 22 nd , 2026 4:30-6:30pm Option 2: January 23 rd , 2026 9:30-11:30am	
Combined Spring/Summer Schedule	January 26 th – August 31 st , 2026	
Fall Schedule	September 2 nd –December 10 th , 2026	
Important Information to Know		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Volunteer roles are filled on a first come first serve basis and roles are limited in number. Come to your interview prepared to pick your shift for the Spring portion of the combined schedule, bring proof of your immunization/vaccination history, and know your social security number as you'll need it to complete the background check paperwork. All interviews are completed in-person. If you're unable to attend an in-person interview, we will not be able to onboard you. 		

Volunteer Opportunities at UPH - Meriter

**10 Tower
HVSSU Greeter
18 Years+**

*Monday - Friday
6am - 9am or
9am - 12pm*

Volunteers in this role sit behind the greeter desk on our Heart & Vascular Short-Stay Unit (HVSSU) and are in charge of creating a welcoming space, greeting and escorting patients who come up for appointments. You can even get homework done during down time in this role!

**2 Atrium
Welcome Desk
16 years+**

*Monday - Friday
3pm - 6pm*

Here you will welcome patients and their family members to the Surgical Waiting Room. In between times, you will also assist staff with light clerical work.

**4 Tower
Welcome Desk
16 years+**

*Monday - Friday
12pm - 2pm*

In this role, you will welcome patients and their family members to pre-op and help them get settled back in the Surgical Waiting Room. In between times, you will also assist staff with light clerical work.

**At Your Service
(AYS)
16 years+**

*All Days
9am - 12pm
12pm - 3pm
3pm - 6pm*

Are you someone who is friendly, assertive and enjoys a variety of tasks? AYS volunteers help welcome and escort patients and visitors to all departments of the hospital. They also deliver flowers and newspapers to inpatients and respond to various unit requests (such as running errands or assisting with discharges). This role is an excellent way to learn the lay of the land at Meriter.

**Blood Drive
18 year+**

*Blood Drives are
the first Friday of
even numbered
months
(Feb, April, June, Aug,
Oct, Dec.)
7:30-11:30am
11:00am-3:00pm
2 shifts*

Here you will assist the American Red Cross staff by checking in donors and assisting them during their appointment time.

**Clinical
Informatics
18 year+**

Monday - Friday

Here you prepare training materials for providers attending Epic Orientation classes.

8:00am - 4:00pm	
Clinical Nutrition 18 years+ <i>All days</i> 6:30am - 8am 10:45am - 12:30pm 4:30pm - 7pm	Do you have a passion for nutrition? We are looking for someone to support our nutrition department in the supervision of patient meal trays. Must be detail oriented, a team player, and able to work alone once trained. This assignment has little to no patient contact.
Digestive Health 18 years+ <i>Monday – Friday</i> 9am - 12pm 12pm - 3pm	Keen to learn a bit more about the behind the scenes work of a unit? Assist the staff in our Digestive Health Center (DHC) by restocking supplies, running errands, helping with room turnover, comfort care rounding, and escorting discharged patients and drivers.
Dogs on Call (DOC) 18 years+	Do you have a dog who is great with people? Consider enrolling them in our Dogs on Call program to provide pet-therapy interactions to patients, visitors and staff which allows for diversion, companionship, motivation, and education. Teams must successfully complete the Pet Partners evaluation process and be able to commit to at least two visits per month for a year. <i>Scheduling is flexible within visitor hours 7 days a week. Minimum two visits per month with at least one visit to the Hospital.</i>
Emergency Services 18 years+ <i>All Days</i> 9am - 12pm 12pm - 3pm 3pm - 6pm 6pm - 9pm 9pm - 11pm	This role is a great way to see the behind-the-scenes environment in an Emergency Department. Volunteers support our staff by completing various tasks including room turnover, stocking, running errands, and transporting patients to other units. This is an excellent role for someone detail-oriented, self-directed, and who likes routine. <div style="background-color: orange; text-align: center; padding: 5px;">120 hours minimum required due to extensive training.</div>
Gift Shop 18 years+	Here you will assist the Gift Shop staff in providing excellent customer service to our visitors, patients, and employees. Perform a variety of other retail duties as needed.

<p>Healing Beats 18 years+</p> <p>All Days 12pm - 4pm 4pm-8pm (Can choose own 2 hour shift during these times)</p>	<p>Have a love for music and the ability to connect quickly with strangers? Join Healing Beats to improve the experiences of patients by using a smartphone and Bluetooth speaker to share patient-selected music. Use music to foster meaningful conversations and help patients reclaim access to cherished music and memories.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">120 hours minimum required due to extensive training.</p>
<p>Hospital Elder Life Program (HELP) 18 years+</p> <p>All Days 8am - 10:30am 10:30am - 1pm 1:30pm - 4:30pm 4:45pm - 7:45pm 7:30pm - 9pm</p>	<p>Do you enjoy working with geriatric patients and want to get bedside experience? Join the Hospital Elder Life Program (HELP) to assist our elder patients with physical and mental activities that improve the hospital experience and help maintain cognitive and physical functioning during a hospital stay.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">120 hours minimum required due to extensive training. Must be available for an additional orientation and 4-6 training shifts outside of your assigned shift prior to starting. These are in addition to the New Volunteer Orientation.</p> <p><u>HELP Musician:</u> Do you play an instrument such as violin or guitar? Join the Hospital Elder Life Program (HELP) as a musician to perform for elder patients to help improve the hospital experience and help maintain cognitive functioning during a hospital stay. This role would have flexible scheduling during visiting hours.</p> <p><u>HELP Administrative Volunteer:</u> Are you organized, detail oriented, and interested in assisting with the administrative side of our HELP program? Assist behind the scenes for 1 - 2 hours per week in this non-patient contact role with a flexible schedule.</p>
<p>HUGS 18 years+</p> <p>On-call 24/7.</p>	<p>The Hope, Understanding, Grief Support group (HUGS) is under the Bereaved Parents of Madison, Inc. umbrella and provides peer support and resources to grieving families during and after pregnancy loss, termination for medical reasons, stillbirth, or infant death. www.bereavedparentsofmadison.com</p>
<p>Infection Prevention 18 years+</p> <p>Monday-Friday 7:00am-5:00pm (Can choose own 2 hour shift during these times)</p>	<p>Are you interested in behind-the-scenes work in a clinical hospital environment? Help us prevent infection here at Meriter. This role assists Infection Prevention personnel with collecting and entering data related to infection prevention and compliance.</p>

<p>Infusion Center 18 years+</p> <p><i>Monday – Friday 8:30am-11:30am 2:30pm - 5:30pm</i></p> <p><i>Saturday and Sunday 8am - 11am</i></p>	<p>This role will work closely with infusion staff to restock supplies and round on our patients and provide them with comfort items and companionship during their Infusion appointments. Must be confident entering patient rooms, and eager to provide ways to help pass the time.</p>
<p>NewStart Therapy Group - Group Facilitator 18 years+</p> <p><i>Varies 10am - 10:50am 4:30pm - 5:20pm</i></p>	<p>NewStart volunteers help to bridge patients to community support groups. These volunteers present a 20-60 minute talk to educate patients on their organization and how patients can get involved and what benefits it will have to their recovery.</p> <p>NewStart volunteers must be a member of an external group partnering with NewStart and are required to have been referred to volunteer with NewStart.</p>
<p>NICU 21 years+</p>	<p>This role will provide support to the NICU staff with various tasks upon request and provide emotional and developmental support and comfort to premature and full term babies at times when parents are not able to visit.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Must have been a volunteer, in good-standing, in another role for a minimum of 6 months and completed a minimum of 100 hours.</i>
<p>Patient, Family Advisory Council (PFAC) 18 years+</p> <p><i>This group meets 6:30 pm-8:00 pm via Teams 2nd Wednesday of March, June, September, and December.</i></p>	<p><u>Patient and Family Advisory Council (PFAC)</u> is a collaboration between UnityPoint Health – Meriter's Patient Experience Partners, employees and community members. Our goal is to create a healthcare environment that is welcoming, comfortable, safe and easy to navigate for our patients and their loved ones. Ideal candidates would be willing to share their opinions, experiences, and provide constructive feedback on methods in which we can enhance the way we provide health care to patients and their families.</p> <p>Must complete a separate interview with our Patient Experience Partners prior to onboarding.</p>

<p>Perinatal Services Administration 18 years+</p> <p><i>Monday – Friday 8am - 4pm (Can choose own 2-4 hour shift during these times)</i></p>	<p>Are you organized and attentive to detail, interested in learning about program management and project implementation? If so, we would love your help in supporting our perinatal department. These volunteers help keep our perinatal programs thriving by preparing class materials for new parents and collecting and preparing supplies for some of our discharge programs such as bereavement kits to preeclampsia monitoring.</p>
<p>Post Partum Nurse Server Stocker Volunteer 21 years+</p> <p><i>Daily 2-5pm</i></p>	<p>Are you friendly, approachable, and comfortable working independently? Are you interested in supporting families and staff in our Post Partum unit by helping with various tasks, keeping the unit tidy, stocking supplies and brochures, removing outdated signs, helping visitors with wayfinding, and patients who are discharging? Then we'd love you help in supporting our Post Partum department.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">120 hours minimum required.</p>
<p>Pharmacy - Inpatient 18 years+</p> <p><i>Inpatient: Mondays, Wednesdays & Fridays 8am - 11am 1pm - 4pm</i></p>	<p>Are you a pre-pharmacy student looking for hands-on experience? If so, this role will provide you with the opportunity to assist technicians with stocking, labeling, and tasks such as preparing and delivering orders, helping to answer phones, or aiding staff with paperwork. Strengths must include strong attention to detail and accuracy, as well as good organizational skills.</p>
<p>Pregnancy and Newborn Care 18 years+</p>	<p>This volunteer role assists in setting up and taking down the simulation equipment before and after Neonatal Resuscitation Program (NRP) courses. This volunteer opportunity can be linked with another opportunity that is office focused and has some flexibility, like Special Projects. This assignment has little to no patient contact.</p> <p><i>Generally twice monthly, on Mondays, Tuesdays &/or Thursdays at these times:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● 7:30 am-08:30 am for 8:00 am class start times (Tuesdays & Thursdays) ● 11:15 am-12:15 pm for 11:45 am class start times ● 2 pm-3 pm for clean up <p><i>Specific dates can be shared with interested potential volunteers</i></p>

<p>Scholarship Committee 18 years+ and out of highschool</p> <p><i>Averages 40-50 hours over a seven-month span.</i></p>	<p>This role collaboratively assists the Volunteer Services department in carrying out the UnityPoint Health-Meriter Healthcare Scholarship program which manages two scholarship programs. The programs award financial assistance to local high school applicants planning to pursue a career in the healthcare field and current UPH - Meriter volunteer applicants (who meet set criteria) to pursue a career in the healthcare field.</p> <p><u>Mandatory Meeting Dates</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <u>Calibration Meeting</u>-adjust rubric scoring knowledge-February • <u>Kick-Off Meeting</u>-Binder Pickup and Member Orientation/Reorientation- early March • <u>Scoring Due</u> - 2 to 3 weeks later • <u>Decision Meeting</u> - late March • <u>Reception-Healthcare Fair & Awards Ceremony</u>-1st Wednesday in May (or late April) • <u>Debriefing Meeting</u> - late/mid May • <u>Social Event</u> - Fall (hosted by committee member or at local establishment)
<p>Special Projects 16 years+</p>	<p>Do you enjoy a variety of tasks? Help assist the Volunteer Services department with various special events and projects for hospital departments in order to further impact the mission of UnityPoint Health – Meriter.</p>
<p>Spiritual Care 18 years+</p> <p><i>Flexible scheduling within visiting hours</i></p>	<p>Roman Catholic Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion (Eucharistic Ministers) are a part of the spiritual care team and an important component in the spiritual care of Roman Catholic patients at UnityPoint Health - Meriter Hospital. Meriter recognizes the healing power that is extended through the Sacraments and persons distributing the Eucharist. Through this distribution, the connection between the hospital, patient's parish, as well as the Church is supported.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Available only to Roman Catholics who are trained EMHC with the Roman Catholic Diocese of Madison</p>
<p>Team UP 18 years+</p> <p><i>Monday – Friday 8:30am - 11am 11am - 1:30pm 1:30pm - 4pm</i></p>	<p>Do you have a friendly demeanor and an outgoing personality which allows you to easily connect with others? Do you enjoy helping people and finding ways to make them smile? If so, we are looking for you! This is a great opportunity to gain bedside experience, to assist our patients with physical and mental activities that improve the hospital experience and offer companionship during their hospital stay.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">120 hours minimum required due to extensive training. Must be available for an additional orientation and 4-6 training shifts outside of your assigned shift prior to starting. These are in addition to the New Volunteer Orientation.</p>

**Therapies -
Inpatient &
Outpatient**

18 years+ and on a track to pursue further education as a therapy student (PT, OT, SLP)

Are you a therapy student eager to learn more about physical, occupational, and speech therapy? If so, this role is a great way to support the therapy department whilst shadowing these fields. Between patients you will assist either the inpatient or outpatient therapy departments with organizing, stocking and cleaning frequently used therapy tools. Inpatient Therapy volunteers will be located onsite at Meriter Hospital, while Outpatient Therapy volunteers will be located at one of our off-site clinics (Central, DeForest, Middleton, Monona, or West). Please note that Outpatient Therapy volunteers must have access to transportation to and from the clinics.

Inpatient:

***Tuesday – Friday
8:30am – 11:30am
1pm - 4pm***

Outpatient:

3-4 hour shifts during the times listed below:

Central Clinic - PT, OT, SLP-adult

***Monday & Friday
8am - 4pm
Wednesday
8am - 12pm***

DeForest Clinic - PT, OT, SLP-peds

Must have car
***Monday
8:30am – 5pm
Wednesday
9am – 5:30pm
Friday
7am – 3:30pm***

Middleton Clinic - PT, OT

Must have car
***Monday & Wednesday
7:30am – 5pm
Thursday
12pm – 5pm
Friday
7:30am – 4pm***

Monona Clinic - PT only

Must have car
***Monday – Thursday
7am – 5:30pm***

West Clinic - PT, OT

Must have car or bus access
***Monday – Thursday
8am – 4:30pm***

<p>Threshold Singers 18 years+</p> <p><i>2nd and 4th Wednesday evening of the month, and urgent sing options</i></p>	<p><u>The Threshold Singers of Madison (TSM)</u> is a group of people who sing healing and comforting songs for people who are seriously ill, dying or grieving. They sing <i>acapella</i>, in unison, harmony, and rounds. TSM sings regularly at Meriter.</p> <p>Volunteers must have successfully onboarded as a TSM member and must be able to commit to a monthly singing shift at Meriter.</p>
<p>Volunteer Services 18 years+</p> <p><i>Monday-Thursday 8:00am-3:00pm</i></p>	<p>Help provide support for the Volunteer Services department. Some tasks may include greeting volunteers, answering phones, working on special projects, and data entry.</p>