

TYPES OF VOLUNTEERS

Regularly Scheduled (RS) Volunteers: RS volunteers are VFW Auxiliary members who participate in the VAVS Program on a regularly scheduled assignment under VA supervision. Frequency of participation is determined by the local VA medical facility. RS volunteers are officially authorized to serve when the RS volunteer has:

- (1) Completed and signed the VFW Auxiliary's "VAVS Volunteer Form."
- (2) Been certified by the Auxiliary Certifying Official.
- (3) Been approved for assignment by the Voluntary Service Program Manager designee.
- (4) Participated in required screenings, background checks, fingerprinting, interviews, orientations and training required by the VA facility.
- (5) Completed a trial period as established by the VA facility.

Occasional Volunteers: Occasional volunteers are those individuals serving under the VAVS Program who do not meet the requirements of RS volunteers. These individuals frequently volunteer with a group or organization on an occasional basis.

Student Volunteers: Student volunteers are under the age of 18 and must have written parental or guardian approval to participate in the VAVS Program. They must also have written authorization for diagnostic and emergency treatment if injured while volunteering. The minimum age for volunteers is determined by the facility management.

Sponsored Volunteers: Sponsored volunteers are non-members of the VFW Auxiliary who wish to serve under VFW Auxiliary sponsorship and supervision as volunteers at VA and non-VA facilities or in VA community-based programs. They must be interviewed and screened in the same manner as VFW Auxiliary members. Upon acceptance, sponsored volunteers are governed by the same ethics and rules prescribed for members.

The appointed Auxiliary VAVS Representative should ensure that sponsored volunteers working under the VFW Auxiliary record the number of hours devoted to hospital service. These volunteers are eligible for VA and other hospital awards. In addition, Representatives should find ways of showing gratitude to sponsored volunteers who perform outstanding service. Sponsored volunteers are not eligible for VFW Auxiliary Hospital service pins, but will receive one-time recognition upon completion of 100 hours of service. Local recognition should also be given to sponsored volunteers.

QUALIFICATIONS, ASSIGNMENTS AND ORIENTATION

A volunteer must:

- Have a willingness to accept hospital standards, orientation, conduct and supervision.
- Possess a clean and neat appearance.
- Be physically able to perform assigned tasks.
- Have a sense of responsibility, dependability and stability on the job.
- Demonstrate a friendly, business-like approach to volunteer work, with honest sentiment and not sentimentality, maintaining the veteran's dignity and pride.