



Travel Hands Volunteer Role Description

Join us in the mission to make London the most accessible city in the world. Volunteer with Travel Hands (www.travelhands.co.uk), a service designed to ease the outdoor commute of VIPs (Visually Impaired People) by pairing them with sighted & verified volunteers to walk together to similar destinations, ensuring a safe, convenient, and inexpensive travel experience.

You get to participate in the most flexible volunteering experience that enables you to help whenever you want based on your flexibility. It is an opportunity to breathe some fresh air, walk some more steps in the day, relax and make some new friends in your area. Shortly, as a thank you, you get the benefit of turning your steps into points, in return converting them into potential rewards, as incentives from affiliated companies that pursue and value their customers under corporate social responsibility programs.

Why are we making Travel Hands?

Think about your daily journey. How many intersections or staircases do you navigate, signs you pass by, paths and roads, or changes at the tube or bus stations? How many people cross your path, only for you to have to suddenly change direction? Now think about how much harder your day would be if you were partially sighted or blind: this is what it's like for the 285 million VIPs in the world.

TfL currently offers VIP Freedom Passes to travel for free and has a system in place where blind people can ask for on-platform assistance. But even walking to the bus stop or the tube station is tough. Even for the shortest of distances, a VIP must face the hassle of booking a taxi when making an unaccompanied journey. The trip is normally made through a phone call and entails an average waiting time of 20 minutes despite being a brief 10-minute walk.

This is where Travel Hands comes in. You, as a volunteer, will be required to help VIPs navigate through roads safely whilst having interesting conversations, building friendships, or simply breathing fresh air. Your volunteering help, which is flexible and could be according to your schedule, will create a lot of positive impacts:

- Ensure that VIPs save on average 30 minutes for every journey undertaken and £40 on travel costs per month.
- Create new social interactions and explore opportunities in life that VIPs never enjoyed before.

- Reduce carbon emissions by reducing the use of taxis and single-mode transportation by VIP.
- Improve physical and mental health by encouraging walking and social interaction.

Skills and qualifications:

You do not require any qualification for the role, and we will be providing online training to make you aware of the ways to walk with a VIP

What we are looking for in a volunteer:

- Ability to empathise with the problems faced by VIPs
- Good time management skills, being able to schedule walks with VIPs and arriving at the meeting point on time.
- Committed & Reliable
- Compassionate
- Patient
- Trustworthy
- Good Listener, we would appreciate it if our volunteers could have interesting chats with VIPs whilst on journeys.

Requirements:

- Must be 18 or over
- Will be required to perform a DBS check before becoming a verified volunteer
- Must be in a physical condition to walk without anyone else's assistance

How to apply :

A H4ALL application form must be completed.

To obtain an application form:

- Visit www.h4all.org.uk and download or print an application form
- Email volunteerhub@h4all.org.uk to request an application form to be sent to you by email or post
- Telephone 01895-676-111

