

VOLUNTEER FAQs

How do I get started?

First, we are so excited and honored that you are considering spending your valuable time to serve with us at BIIN. To start your process of volunteering with BIIN, you should begin by browsing the descriptions listed under “[Volunteer Opportunities](#)” on our website. After learning more about each of our volunteer opportunities, we invite you to fill out an [application form](#) where you will be asked for basic information about yourself. This allows us to match your skill-set with the needs of each of our programs. After filling out the application, check your email. You will receive a link to our volunteer calendar so you can sign up for shifts that work with your schedule.

What opportunities are currently available?

Information and descriptions of current volunteer opportunities are posted [online](#) while volunteer sign-ups can be accessed on our volunteer web page from the “Sign up for volunteer shifts” link. Varying factors such as time of year, staff needs, current projects, and program needs contribute to a wide range of volunteer opportunities and availability. The listing of available opportunities varies by program and most assignments only require a limited number of individual volunteers. Therefore, if you don’t see something you are interested in initially, we encourage you to check back regularly to see if new opportunities have been made available.

I’ve filled out and submitted an application form. Now what?

Now that you’ve submitted an application, you can begin signing up for volunteer shifts. To do so, log onto our [website](#) and click the “[Sign up for volunteer shifts](#)” tab. An email will immediately be sent to your email with a link to our volunteer calendar. Navigate to the Job Calendar tab in the top menu and begin signing up.

In the future, you can request the volunteer link on the Get Involved page on BIIN's website or you can bookmark the link for easy access. If you have any issues using the volunteer calendar, please watch this helpful short video. If you still have questions, send an email to info@brazosimmigration.com.

What type of commitment is required?

Your level of commitment depends mostly upon your availability and willingness to contribute. If you have the time and wish to contribute more or serve in multiple programs, you are welcome to do so! The length of commitment and hours per week vary depending on the time of year and the specific jobs. Some assignments, such as Information, Referrals, & Assistance (IRA), require a 9-month commitment and an in-depth training. Other volunteer opportunities such as our citizenship and English classes do not require a time commitment and a brief training is provided at the beginning of the shift.

Will I be reminded of my volunteer job?

Yes, you will receive an email from info@brazosimmigration.com before your volunteer shift.

What if I need to cancel my scheduled shift?

Log onto our [website](#) and click the " [Sign up for volunteer shifts](#)" tab. An email will immediately be sent to your email with a link to our volunteer calendar. Scroll down to "Scheduled Volunteer Shifts" and click cancel next to the shift time.

Who will I be working with?

Each volunteer is assigned to a program coordinator. If you are serving in multiple of our program offerings, you will be working with several program coordinators. The volunteer coordinator maintains contact with program coordinators, manages the volunteer database, and communicates regularly with the volunteers regarding assignments, schedules, profiles, and timekeeping. Additionally, there will be other volunteers serving with the same assignment/program as you. All of these individuals are resources for you, to help make your volunteer experience as fulfilling and enjoyable as possible.

What are the benefits?

We hope that your volunteer experience will be rewarding and fun. The value of working alongside volunteers and interns and helping to enrich the lives of our immigrant community cannot be overstated. We strive to honor and recognize each of our volunteers through our volunteer appreciation program. In addition to these intrinsic rewards and an invitation to our annual appreciation celebration, active volunteers have the opportunity to earn BIIN gear during their time with us, such as:

- A BIIN bumper sticker after completing 25 hours of volunteer work
- A BIIN tote bag after completing 50 hours of volunteer work
- A BIIN t-shirt after completing 75 hours of volunteer work
- An embroidered BIIN hat after completing 100 hours of volunteer work