

Helping pupils in difficulty.



Protect the environment.



Reconstructing disaster-stricken populations.



Helping homeless people.

The recruitment campaign 2011-2012

BECOMING A VOLUNTEER

To become a volunteer in “Service Civique”, you must be between 16 and 25, have French nationality – or nationality from a Member State of the European Union or European Economic Area - or justify legal residence in France of more than one year.

The applicants often hear about “Service Civique” from the radio or the internet, sometimes by close relations and, more and more often, from former volunteers. They search for the necessary information on the “Service Civique” site or enquire for details from their local mission or Youth Information Point. They have access to a lot of suggested assignments (four thousand assignments available online on average). Those who register on the website join the “Service Civique” community” (more than one hundred and ten thousand young people in February 2012) and regularly receive a newsletter which informs them about the assignments available in their area. They can then decide to submit an application form and apply directly on line with an organization. They apply for one or several missions, even without having a diploma. For most of the assignments, motivation and social skills are what count.

ONCE YOU ARE A VOLUNTEER

When the volunteer is recruited, the individual signs a contract with the organization that is hosting him/her. This contract stipulates the place, the working hours and tasks which will be performed during the mission. It is not a work contract. The relationship between the volunteer and the host organization is

a relation of collaboration, not subordination.

The volunteer discovers the assignment which can last from six to twelve months and will devote at least twenty-four hours per week to it. As is the spirit of “Service Civique”, the assignment must be the volunteer’s principal activity, even if he/she is allowed to have additional activities (studies, employment, etc.). The volunteer receives an allowance of €559 per month, including €103 financed by the hosting structure and is entitled to complete social protection (illness, retirement, etc.) paid for entirely by the State. In this way, a year of “Service Civique” gives the same pension rights as one year of work. If the volunteers’ family receives the RSA (active solidarity subsidy or earned income supplement from the government), or if a different grant is attributed, the individual can, in certain cases, receive an additional €103. The individual receives a “Service Civique” card designed with the collaboration of the volunteers, and the Charter of “Service Civique” Values.

THE HOST ORGANIZATION

Recruitment of the volunteer takes place within an organization approved by “Service Civique” Agency or its regional representatives. It can be an association, a recognized public-community/utility foundation, a public service establishment, or a local government authority.

In order to host volunteers for the “Service Civique”, the organization needs to obtain a two-year approval period from the “Service Civique” Agency, the

regional prefects, or local organizations.

The organization must take into consideration the diversity of profiles of the young people it recruits. It must appoint a tutor to ensure the preparation of the assignment and to assist the volunteer in fulfilling the assignment. It must also provide civic training for the volunteer and accompany the candidate in the development of his/her future project.

All these obligations are frequently and regularly monitored by the “Service Civique” Agency and its regional correspondents.

Finally, the host organization must allow the volunteer to take part in meetings organized on a local or national level. In 2011, more than ten events (Chambéry, Arles, Mont-de-Marsan...)

were organized which means that several thousands of volunteers were able to cross paths and exchange experiences about voluntary work.

WHEN THE MISSION IS COMPLETED

In order for “Service Civique” to be validated, the assignment must have lasted at least 6 months. The volunteer receives a certificate by post from “Service Civique” a month before the end of the assignment. It includes a document which describes the activities, aptitudes, knowledge and skills acquired during the assignment.

At the end of the assignment, the host organization has the responsibility of assessing the volunteer and guiding and assisting the candidate in achieving his/her goal.

“SERVICE CIVIQUE” MANAGEMENT

The “Service Civique” Agency has determined, since its creation, and in agreement with its board of direction and the strategic committee, the main direction and major programs. These are implemented in close connection with local referents from the “Service Civique” Agency, with Local authorities for sports and social cohesion (DRJSCS) and the interdepartmental Directorate Department for Youth. In the continuation of traditional activities by the State Services for youth, who are constantly involved in popular education, “Service Civique” has become one of their most emblematic missions.

From the creation of the “Service Civique” Agency in May 2010 to the 20th March, the Strategic committee, which brings together the host organizations, decentralized departments, members of Parliament and the volunteers, will have met eight times. The Board of directors has met thirteen times. The “Service Civique” Agency team consists of about twenty people.