

FAQs ON VOLUNTEERING FOR BANT

Q1. I don't have any specific/relevant experience in any particular area, can I still volunteer?

Yes, in most areas relevant experience is not a pre-requisite. Some applicants don't have specific experience in the field they are applying for but still have lots of good ideas to offer. However, some areas, such as legal advice, do require some level of knowledge and understanding, which requires previous, specific training.

Q2. How much time will I need to allocate to volunteering for BANT?

About 2 hours per week is usual. This could also be worked as two 4-hour slots or in one batch of 8 hours, depending on what works. Sometimes it may depend on what projects are being worked on and the specific deadlines.

Q3. If I am accepted to help for one team, can I change team later?

Yes, this may be possible. We will discuss with you which areas you wish to volunteer for. Sometimes, one area may need more support depending on specific projects and timing. You can also volunteer for more than one team at a time. Sometimes team issues overlap so this can be beneficial.

Q4. What happens if I find that I cannot allocate enough time to support BANT and the other volunteers?

We understand that from time to time life and events take over and it is not possible to anticipate these events in advance. You could either resign from your post, or let us know you need a break. You can stop volunteering at any point, we have no formal notice period, although we prefer projects be completed so there are natural break points at which it becomes easier for someone to leave and someone else to join.

Q5. I am a student, can I apply for a volunteer position?

Yes you can.

Q6. Does BANT pay its volunteers?

No, positions are voluntary (unpaid), but any travel expenses for team business would be reimbursed.

Q7. What type of voluntary work is needed? What skills are needed?

Look at the team vacancies section for current vacancies. Although we are always looking for enthusiastic volunteers, relevant skills are always welcome!

Q8. Where do I need to go to volunteer for BANT? Can I do it from home

Most volunteering is done from home, and most meetings are conducted online. However, on occasion meetings are face to face at the most convenient location, usually London. Attendance at BANT Council meetings from time to time is also a possibility and they are held in London. The only team that requires attendance at various locations is the events team, but even then you can volunteer to assist with preparation work before or after events, or be on a stand at an exhibition such as CAMExpo, representing BANT if you wanted to volunteer to do that as part of the events team.

Q9. I am not very good writing, but I have excellent interpersonal skill. Is this good enough to volunteer at BANT?

Volunteering can take many different forms. We have volunteers that proof read, that get involved with decision making, that write, design and help create policy and those who have creative ideas. There are many ways to express your talents at BANT and also the chance to learn new ones!

Q10. What do I do to become a BANT volunteer?

Simply look at the vacancies listing and if there is anything there you are interested in applying for then send in your application. Or you can email communications@bant.org.uk and express an interest in a particular team.

Q11. What support will I get as a BANT volunteer?

You will get support and training from the specific team leader and Head of Communications and also enjoy the support of the other team members. Volunteering at BANT can be a very sociable experience.