

NATIONAL SERVICE SCHEME
VOLUNTEERS FUNCTIONS, CRITERIA FOR NSS CERTIFICATE

Since National Service Scheme is aimed at developing the personality of NSS volunteers through community service, hence, all NSS activities provide an opportunity to NSS volunteers to involve themselves in community service.

Participation in NSS Programme/Training

A student enrolled as NSS volunteers will have to put in 120 hours for community work in a year for a period of 2 years. He/she is likely to participate in different programmes and projects under NSS. The distribution of 120 hours on NSS activities is given as under :-

Orientation

Each NSS volunteers who joins NSS will undergo an orientation in NSS Programme for 20 hours out of 120 hours. The 20 hours meant for orientation will further be divided as general orientation – 2 hours; special orientation – 8 hours and Programme skill learning – 10 hours. During the general orientation the NSS volunteers will get to know the history and growth of NSS programme, aims, objectives and other basic concepts of NSS.

After the general orientation is completed the students will be given special orientation where information regarding the realities of life pertaining to community and its problems. Volunteers will be encouraged to know more about the problems of village/urban slums and will be oriented for the schemes which are sponsored by the Government agencies and voluntary organizations in the field of community service;

The 3rd place of orientation will consist of developing programme skills which are essential for community work and completion of NSS projects. During the orientation the NSS volunteers should be given information regarding the following :-

To establish rapport with the people in the project area;

Identify needs, problems and resources of the community;

Plan programmes and carry out the plans;

Relate learning and experience towards finding solutions to the problems identified; and

Record the activities in work diary systematically and assess the progress periodically and effect changes, as and when needed.

Campus Projects

The NSS volunteers may be asked to participate in the campus projects not exceeding 20 hours. The purpose of the campus project is to motivate the NSS volunteers for manual work and to instill dignity of labour.

Community Work

NSS has made efforts to link the campus with community. Hence, the remaining 80 hours will be devoted to the community work. The NSS volunteer is expected to participate in projects prepared by the Programme Officer for community work. The aim of such projects is to bring the NSS volunteer face to face with the realities of life and needs & requirements of the community. The volunteer is expected to develop rapport with the community by sharing their problems and help them to overcome their difficulties. This first hand exposure to community realities does help to develop the personality of the volunteer.

Maintenance of Diary

Every NSS volunteer will keep a record of his/her project work in his/her work diary supplied by the Programme Officer.

Certificate

NSS volunteer who has completed 240 hours of regular activities in the period of 2 years and attended one annual special camp, will be issued an NSS certificate by the respective university.

In case, a volunteer does not fulfill the above condition and has to miss the university certificate, the college authorities may issue a certificate to the NSS volunteer. A model certificate to be issued to the NSS volunteer is given at Annexure – IX.

Incentive

The NSS volunteers should get appropriate weightage if he/she completes 2 years in NSS and gets the certificate signed by the Vice-Chancellor of the university. Universities may give preference to such NSS volunteers in matters of admission, promotion and other privileges as decided by them.

NSS volunteers should be honoured at university level for their excellent and outstanding work in NSS. The universities may prepare guidelines for such incentives.

The states may also institute state level/district level awards for outstanding NSS volunteers.