Thank you for your interest in volunteering at the St. Petersburg Science Festival. Our volunteers are essential to making the festival a success, and we are grateful to have your time, energy, and talents! Below are frequently asked questions about what is involved in volunteering at the festival.

Please email the Volunteer Coordinators at info@stpetescifest.org with any questions or concerns. (Allow up to 24 hrs. for a response).

**How do I sign up to be a volunteer?**
Volunteers should complete the online volunteer sign-up form. Once you have registered, you will receive an email confirmation of your scheduled shift(s). You must be 18 years old to volunteer. The festival planning committee has the right to refuse individuals as necessary to meet the needs of the festival. It is expected that you arrive at Volunteer Check-in at least 15 minutes prior to your shift and stay for the entire duration of your shift. Please only sign up if you can do so.

**What types of tasks will I do as a volunteer?**
There are many roles that volunteers play in creating a successful festival. Tasks include, but are not limited to, assisting exhibitors with setting up & breaking down, greeting visitors, distributing programs, and cleaning up litter. You will be able to select the specific job you would like to do upon signing up, but we ask that you please remain flexible; there may be times when you will be asked to assist with a different task if needed.

It should be noted that there are times when there will be more activity than others. Please keep in mind that even if you have to wait some time for directions, or if there is not a great deal of activity at your volunteer post, your participation is still just as valuable.

**Do I sign up here if I am volunteering with an exhibitor?**
No. This signup is for volunteers who help run the festival itself. Our exhibitors handle their own volunteers.

**What are the incentives for being a volunteer at the St. Petersburg Science Festival?**
Volunteers will receive one unisex cotton festival t-shirt and refreshments during their shifts. Friday and Saturday volunteers receive lunch. The festival is also a lot of fun, and a great place to network and learn.

Volunteers who earn extra credit or are completing community service can obtain a letter stating volunteer hours, and/or have necessary documents signed at the end of their shifts when signing out.
Where should I park and check in?
A few days prior to the festival, you will receive a “Need to Know” packet via email. It will include directions about checking in, a parking pass and map. If you do not have access to a printer, you can get a parking pass at the volunteer check-in table. Please give yourself plenty of time (at least 15 min) to park prior to the start of your shift.

How long are volunteer shifts?
There are many different shifts and jobs that range from 2 to 5 hours long on Thursday, Friday, and Saturday. If you choose to volunteer for more than one consecutive shift, you will be given a 30-minute break.

Is training necessary?
A few volunteer jobs require training. Golf Cart Drivers are required to watch a training video sometime prior to their shift, and bring in the certificate of completion when they come to check in. Evaluators will have training during the first hour of their shifts.

How will I know what to do?
After you sign up, you will receive an email confirming your selected shift(s) and job(s). When you arrive for your scheduled shift, please go to the Volunteer check-in. You will then be assigned to a lead volunteer who will assist you with where to go and answer any questions. If you are ever in doubt as to what to do, please contact your lead or call the Volunteer Coordinator directly.

Do you want to volunteer but are younger than 18?
The Junior Scientist program is a great way for those under 18 years of age to get involved.