

# STUDENT SUMMER HOLIDAY VOLUNTEER

## FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

### What area/town will I be volunteering?

The Cairns Turtle Rehabilitation Centre is located on Fitzroy Island. On days you will be volunteering, you will be taking a 45-minute ferry from Cairns to the island return each day. The Habitat Helps Volunteer Program is located in Port Douglas. The Rainforest and Wildlife Warriors Program is located in Kuranda. For Play and Volunteer Program, you will be based in Cairns and participating in one day volunteering programs at Fitzroy Island, Mission Beach and on the Great Barrier Reef.

### How many hours / day, days / week will I be volunteering?

Please refer to your particular program itinerary. Generally, working hours for a volunteer are the same as full-time employees. Most volunteer programs are Monday – Friday from approximately 9am – 5pm.

### Will I be paid for volunteering?

No, volunteering is providing your time and services without being paid.

### Do I get breaks?

Yes, for meals / drinks. Usually a morning and afternoon tea break as well as lunch break of up to 1 hour as per regulations.

### Do I need to have experience to volunteer?

No! Most volunteers have no formal experience, just an eagerness and passion to learn.

### Can I volunteer if I have a health condition or disability?

Yes, a health condition does not exclude you from volunteering. It is important that you provide us with information about your condition or disability on your booking form, so we can determine your capabilities for your own safety. Volunteering can be physical by nature and can be quite strenuous due to the tropical climate. Some of the tasks that are required of volunteers as part of the daily routine can be repetitive.

### Will there be air conditioning at my volunteering workplace?

No, you will be working in the Far North Queensland Climate for your volunteering projects. Temperatures are hot and humid during the summer months with a temperature range from approximately 25 – 34 degrees Celsius. You must drink plenty of water throughout the day to stay hydrated.

### Do I need to pay for my accommodation?

No, your accommodation is inclusive of your program Please refer to your particular program itinerary for more information.

### Will I be sharing a room with other people? Will it be in a block with the same sex, or is it mixed?

Yes, and it will be mixed.

### **Does the accommodation include Wi-Fi, air conditioning and laundry facilities, or are these extra charges?**

Yes, your accommodation facilities will provide Wi-Fi and air conditioning at no extra charge. Laundry facilities are available onsite at your accommodation facility. Additional charges apply for the use of laundry facilities.

### **Is there mobile phone service where I will be living?**

In Cairns, Port Douglas and Kuranda, yes. Telstra works best. There is extremely limited mobile phone service on Fitzroy Island.

### **Do I need to provide my own linen?**

Yes, all linen will be provided.

### **Do I pay for my own food?**

Some meals will be supplied for you. Please refer to your program itinerary. For meals that are not included, there will be a grocery store within walking distance of either your volunteer location or accommodation facility where you will be able to purchase food. Your accommodation facility will have a fridge/freezer and cupboard to store your food.

### **How do I get to Cairns?**

By air, coach or train at your own cost.

### **Will I have time for sightseeing?**

Yes, please refer to your program itinerary for free days. Our team can assist you with booking optional activities at a discounted price.

### **Can I link my volunteer experience towards credits?**

You can link your volunteer experience to the Study Queensland Launch U trade accelerator program, which will assist you in gaining micro-credentials. If your University is linked with this program you can speak directly with them to see if you can gain any credits from your experience. <https://www.studyqueensland.qld.gov.au/launch-u/student>