WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW

WHY IS VIP FOR ME?

There are numerous benefits to participating in the VIP. See why you should continue with the VIP below.

LEVEL REQUIREMENTS

Every level of the VIP has its own requirements! See below for your specific GIVE/GROW/GAIN requirements.

VOLUNTEER PLACEMENTS

Looking for something new? See this month’s featured volunteer organization below.

You don’t have to be a superstar or a saint, you just have to be willing to show up and take an interest in bettering yourself!

Anyone is eligible to register for the VIP, as long as you have a Memorial Student number and you’re registered for classes in either the semester you complete your VIP level or the semester before you complete your VIP level.
WHY IS VIP FOR ME?

The Volunteer Incentive Program (VIP) is a multi-level program for all Memorial students who want to help their own growth and development as thriving individuals. Besides achieving recognition for completing each level, the VIP offers lifelong benefits!

By completing the VIP, you can develop leadership and communication skills through your interactions with others in your volunteer organizations, professional development sessions, and your ThinkTanks. Additionally, obtaining volunteer experience will allow you to improve your time-management skills by successfully juggling volunteering with other commitments such as school and work.

Nowadays, employers also look beyond grades and work experience when hiring. Participating in the VIP will allow you to show that you can handle much more than the bare minimum. It will also show that you really care about others and are willing to work in a team environment. Professional development sessions can even help critique your resume and prepare for an interview!

Finally, participating in the VIP has provided our participants with long lasting friendships. You will work with individuals just like you who see the benefits in volunteering and enjoy helping others. If you’re looking to make connections during your university career, participating in the VIP is a great way to start!

HEAR FROM OUR VIP PARTICIPANTS!

Many people complete at least one VIP level each semester. See what some participants had to say about the program below.

"VIP helped me get recognition for what I did in the community. The different levels of VIP gave me tasks and activities to look up to every semester. It helped me with my social anxiety as well as my communication and team work skills" (Noah, Gold Level)

"The VIP program has allowed me to grow as a person. Through the different volunteer opportunities, my critical thinking, communication and professional skills have skyrocketed! I cannot wait to complete the next two levels!" (Cheyenne, Bronze/Silver)

"The VIP program has not only helped me with personal growth but it has also lead to some amazing friendships. I’ve been able to work on individual skills and I can’t wait to learn more. (Emily, Gold Level)
The first level in the Volunteer Incentive Program is Bronze. For the Bronze level, you have to complete 20 hours of volunteer service, one hour of professional development, two surveys, and one ThinkTank session over the course of one semester.

In Silver, the participant has to complete 40 hours of volunteer work, 2 hours of professional development and two surveys and one ThinkTank session in one semester. Participants can also try for Bronze and Silver in the same semester.

The next level is Gold. For Gold, you must complete 80 hours of volunteer service, 4 hours of professional development, one hour of leadership development, one ThinkTank session and one reference letter. This level can be completed over one or two semesters.

The finally level is Platinum. For this level, you will need 20 hours of volunteer service and one hour of professional development. You must also develop 2 ThinkTank sessions as well as two debrief about the sessions.
Volunteer Placements

For this feature, the three placement we have decided to highlight are MUN SAGA, SPCA St. John’s and Eastern Health!

MUN SAGA is an amazing resource center for LBGTQI2S+ people. They provide counselling, special events and a safe space for those who need it. They are in need of volunteers to help with their counselling services and to help plan their events like Queer Prom. For more information, you can email them at lbgt@munsu.ca, or pop up to UC6022 anytime from 10am to 4pm!

SPCA St. John’s is another fantastic organization. They are an adoption based agency looking to help animals find the perfect home. The SPCA needs volunteers for daily cat care and dog walking. They also need people to tend to the thrift store. Other duties include planning special events, driving animals to veterinary appointments, being an animal case worker, and administrative duties.

To volunteer, you must be at least 16 years old. Volunteers are required to obtain a record check and attend an orientation.

For more information, please email volunteer@spcsastjohns.org

Another amazing organization is Eastern Health! Eastern Health is in need of volunteers for multiple positions. Some duties include fundraising, friendly visitations, clinical support, meal assistance, pastoral care and tending to the gift shop.

To be eligible for these positions, you must be able to commit to 1 hour a week, obtain a code of conduct, have all your immunizations, get a 2 step TB test and attend an orientation!

For more information, please email judy.cook@easternhealth.ca