500 Festival & Indianapolis 500 Education Program, presented by Riley Children's Health FAQ

What are the benefits of volunteering?

- Free commemorative volunteer shirt and a collector's pin
- An invitation to the 500 Festival's Volunteer Appreciation Day on May 16th at Indianapolis Motor Speedway
  - **Must register on VolunteerLocal by 5 p.m. on 4/9/26 to receive invitation**
- Two tickets to Indy 500 Qualifications on May 16th (must RSVP to Volunteer Appreciation Day to receive tickets)

What time should I arrive at my shift?

- Please arrive 15-20 minutes prior to your shift time to allow time for check-in and placements.

Do I need to complete a background screen?

- Yes, to volunteer for the Education Program, all volunteers must be 18 years of age or older and complete a background screen due to interaction with children. Volunteers will only need to complete one background screen for the 2026 season. You may also view the 500 Festival Background Check Policy at any time.

How do I know what shift I signed up for?

- You can access your Volunteer Profile at any time by clicking the **Volunteer Profile Link** in your confirmation email. Or you can always visit 500Festival.volunteerlocal.com and click **Access your Volunteer Profile** in the top right corner of the page. You will need to input your email address you created your profile with, and an email will be sent to you with your link. You can bookmark your volunteer profile as it always stays up to date with information and easy access to review shift information.

When do I receive my volunteer materials?

- You will receive your volunteer materials at check-in. A parking pass will be provided to you prior to your shift.

What should I wear for my volunteer shift?

- Please wear your Education Program volunteer t-shirt with jeans, black or khaki pants- shorts- golf skirts- etc. of an appropriate length with comfortable closed-toe shoes.

I signed up to be a station leader, when will I receive materials for review?

- If you are teaching at a station, all materials will be provided to you 2-3 days prior to your shift to allow time to review.

I signed up as a school guide, when will I know what school, I am leading?

- School placement is a first come first served basis at volunteer check-in. If you want to lead a specific school, please email the 500 Festival Volunteer Team prior to your shift.

Where do I park, and will it be free?

- Enter the Indianapolis Motor Speedway off 16th Street through Gate #2. From Gate #2 take a left as you approach the security hut and follow Hulman Boulevard around the curve. Please have your parking pass visible as IMS personnel will be there to assist you on where to park.

Are food and beverages provided?

- Yes, refreshments will be provided at Volunteer Check-In.

What if my shift is outside and it's raining?

- Please plan to attend your volunteer shift, rain, or shine. The event will occur regardless of weather conditions, so be prepared with appropriate attire.

Is there a hotline for us to call if for some reason the event is cancelled due to severe storms?

- Any cancellations or delays of the event will be communicated via email to all volunteers.

If on event day I am no longer able to attend my shift, do I need to notify someone?

- Please contact the 500 Festival Volunteer Team as soon as possible at volunteer@500festival.com.

Are there physical requirements to volunteer?

- You will most likely be on your feet for at least part of any volunteer position—that is why it is so important that you wear comfortable shoes!

Can my family volunteer with me?

- Yes! We encourage family members and friends to volunteer. All volunteers for the Education Program must be 18 years of age or older due to interactions with children.

Can my family and friends volunteer for the same station or opportunity?

- Yes. However, each volunteer needs to sign up individually, so they will need to create their own volunteer profile.