Committed to creating an impact through talented young minds.

The University of Birmingham is committed to developing close working-relationships with organisations within the charitable sector.

We have collaborated with many charities and understand the everyday difficulties that the charitable sector faces. Not enough time, resource and money!

We would like to offer you the opportunity to gain additional support from an enthusiastic final-year student through a short-term voluntary placement.

Could you benefit from a fresh perspective and tailored approach?

Our creative and innovative students possess strong analytical and research skills, and bring new ideas and enthusiasm to their placements. They bring a passion for good causes and a desire to create real and lasting impact on their placements.

Real examples of projects that our students have worked:

- Birmingham Children’s Hospital, took on two of our students to help in their fundraising department with the aim to improve the success of their fundraising income stream. Both students performed outstandingly, the hospital were so impressed by one that they were offered a full-time role after graduation.

Ash on his placement at Birmingham Children’s Hospital

LUCIA, a local charity that works with NGOs based in Africa, asked our students to produce a report that looked at health issues that had an impact on the people living in Ethiopia in order to ensure that money was directed to the projects and areas where it was needed the most.

Rebecca Shales, Trustee at LUCIA

“The students that worked on this project presented their report to our board of trustees; we were impressed by the findings and also by the commitment that the students had shown. Yes, I held regular catch-up sessions with them to see how they were progressing but they certainly didn’t need hand holding as this was mostly a self-directed project”.

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What support will I get if I take on a placement student?
Our dedicated placement team will help you tailor your project so that it is aligned with your needs. We will draft the job description for you and promote the opportunity free of charge.

What will I be responsible for?
This placement is part of a module called The Professional Development Module. The placement must be a minimum of 40 hours to meet the academic needs of the module. At the end of the placement we ask employers to sign a timesheet to confirm that the student has undertaken at least 40 hours of work experience. To ensure that you get the right student into your organisation we ask employers to manage the recruitment process.

On average each role receives four applications.

How much will it cost?
Since the placement forms part of our students’ academic studies you are under no obligation to pay the student, however unpaid placements cannot be any longer than 20 working days. We do ask employers to cover all reasonable travel costs.

What if I don’t find a suitable student that I want to take on?
We hope that won’t be the case but you are under no obligation to take on a student if you feel that they are not the right person for the role.

When will the placement take place?
Between mid-June and September 2016 if you would like to offer a summer placement or between October and January 2017 if you would like to offer a term-time placement.

RSVP (Rape & Sexual Violence Project) played host to two placement students during term time.

"The students did some competitor analysis and looked at other charities and within those documents the students found a name of a funder that I hadn’t heard of before, we have approached that funder and have been given the go-ahead to make that application. Their work has directly had an impact on us being able to request for more funds. If we get the funds, the students can say that their work led to one of our staff being funded".

Learn More
If you have any questions please get in touch with Matt or Roshni in the Placements Team.

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