

Alternative Pathways Volunteer Officer

The Alternative Pathways Volunteer Officer shall sit on the Union's Executive Council, alongside the Sabbatical Officers, representing and championing the rights and views of all 17,000+ students at the University of Stirling.

The University of Stirling Student Union Alternative Pathways Volunteer Officer is a fixed-term voluntary elected role, operating within the Education Zone. The Volunteer Officer roles are designed to be flexible and fit around your studies, with all core responsibilities taking no more than 10 hours a month.

All newly elected Volunteer Officers will immediately begin their roles following the Autumn Election and will be supported with induction and training throughout.

If you have any questions regarding this, please email Natalie Hay, Democracy & Representation Coordinator, natalie.hay@stir.ac.uk.

Am I eligible to stand for Alternative Pathways Volunteer Officer?

For the Volunteer Officer roles, you need to be a matriculated University of Stirling student at the time of the Union Elections, and until June 2024 at least.

What does the Alternative Pathways Volunteer Officer role involve?

- To identify and organise campaigns to raise awareness of the relevant issues affecting alternative pathways students (defined as those students entering University from alternative pathways other than Secondary School, including but not limited to, from the workplace or from Forth Valley College and similar).
- To work alongside the Vice President Education, Education Zone members and Union staff, on projects to better represent alternative pathways students within the Students' Union and build an engaged, active community.
- Deliver change projects and campaigns based on your manifesto.
- Ensure the implementation of, and adherence to, an effective [Equality, Diversity and Inclusion policy](#).
- Attend all appropriate training events and conferences to ensure familiarity with their role and current issues affecting students.

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Key Students' Union Meetings

General Meetings

Executive Council

Education Zone (and sub-committee)

Who will I be working with?

The Volunteer Officers will be working with a wide range of internal and external relationships, these include:

Students	Students' Union	University	External
Students	Vice President Education	Faculty Staff	sparqs
Education Zone Members	Sabbatical Officers		
Education Volunteer Officers	Democracy and Representation Coordinator		
Student Reps	Union Staff		

What are the benefits of the role?

- Achieve political, social and educational change that will have a lasting impact on the student experience at the University of Stirling.
- Gain in-depth knowledge of the Students' Union, the University of Stirling, and the Higher Education sector.
- Training and personal development opportunities tailored to the individual role.
- Gain experience of leading, developing and supporting campaigns for change and shaping the students' experience at Stirling.
- Develop transferable skills, such as networking, project management, and professional communication, whilst also gaining experience in leading a student-led organisation.
- The Volunteer Officer role will also be documented on your academic transcript.

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Where can I get further information about the role?

If you have any questions regarding this role, you can contact the following people for more information:

- **Katie Gethings**, Vice President Education 2023/24 (education.union@stir.ac.uk)
- **Natalie Hay**, Democracy and Representation Coordinator (natalie.hay@stir.ac.uk)

I want to stand for Alternative Pathways Volunteer Officer, what next?

1. Submit Your Nomination

Nominations will open at **10:00 BST on 29th August 2023**, you can submit your nomination online through [Students' Union Website](#) where you'll be asked to provide:

- a. Your candidate photo
- b. Your manifesto*
- c. Download, complete and return the Officer Code of Conduct form to natalie.hay@stir.ac.uk

The deadline for you to complete your nomination is **12:00 BST on 2nd October 2023**.

** You'll have until **17:00 BST on the 4th October 2023** to edit and finalise your manifesto.*

2. Nomination Confirmation

Once your nomination has been submitted and you have returned your completed Officer Code of Conduct form, we will confirm your nomination via email.

3. Candidate Briefing

Following the close of nominations, you will be invited to a Candidate Briefing where the Deputy Returning Officer shall communicate all important information to you on the Election process and answer any questions. If you cannot attend this meeting, you can send a representative on your behalf.

4. Candidate Support

There is support available to all candidates, including access to a range of candidate guides which can be found [here](#).

We would also encourage Volunteer Officer Candidates to arrange a time to speak with the current Sabbatical Officers or a member of staff within the Students' Union. You can arrange this one-to-one meeting via the [Union Elections Booking page](#). You can use this meeting to find out more about the Volunteer Officer role, and the Students' Union can offer advice on your manifesto and campaign planning while answering any of your questions.

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5. **Campaigning and Voting Period**

Campaigning begins at **10:00 BST on the 10th October 2023**. Voting then opens at **10:00 BST on the 17th October 2023** and closes at **17:00 BST on the 19th October 2023** with results being announced the following day.

If you have any questions regarding the Elections more generally, please email Natalie Hay, Democracy & Representation Coordinator, natalie.hay@stir.ac.uk.

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