



### **Dear Applicant,**

Thank you for your interest in volunteering with the University of Alberta Sexual Assault Centre!

For the past 30 years, the UASAC has provided students with engaging volunteer opportunities focused on making a meaningful difference in the lives of individuals and their community. With your help, we will continue to work towards creating a campus community free of sexual violence.

We welcome applications to our volunteer programmes from all interested University of Alberta students, particularly First Nations, Métis, and Inuit persons, people of colour, people experiencing disabilities, and people of any sexual orientation or gender identity and expression. Ensuring that the knowledge and experiences of people who are disproportionately silenced in our community are represented in our volunteer cohorts is not only an important aspect of our anti-oppressive practice, it is essential to the community-driven work we do.

This information package is intended to provide sufficient information to help you determine if one of our volunteer positions is right for you. If you have any questions about our volunteer programming after reading through this package, please do not hesitate to reach out to our centre at [uasac@ualberta.ca](mailto:uasac@ualberta.ca)!

Thank you again for your interest in volunteering with us. Our service depends on the passion of dedicated individuals like yourself!

All the best,  
**UASAC Staff**

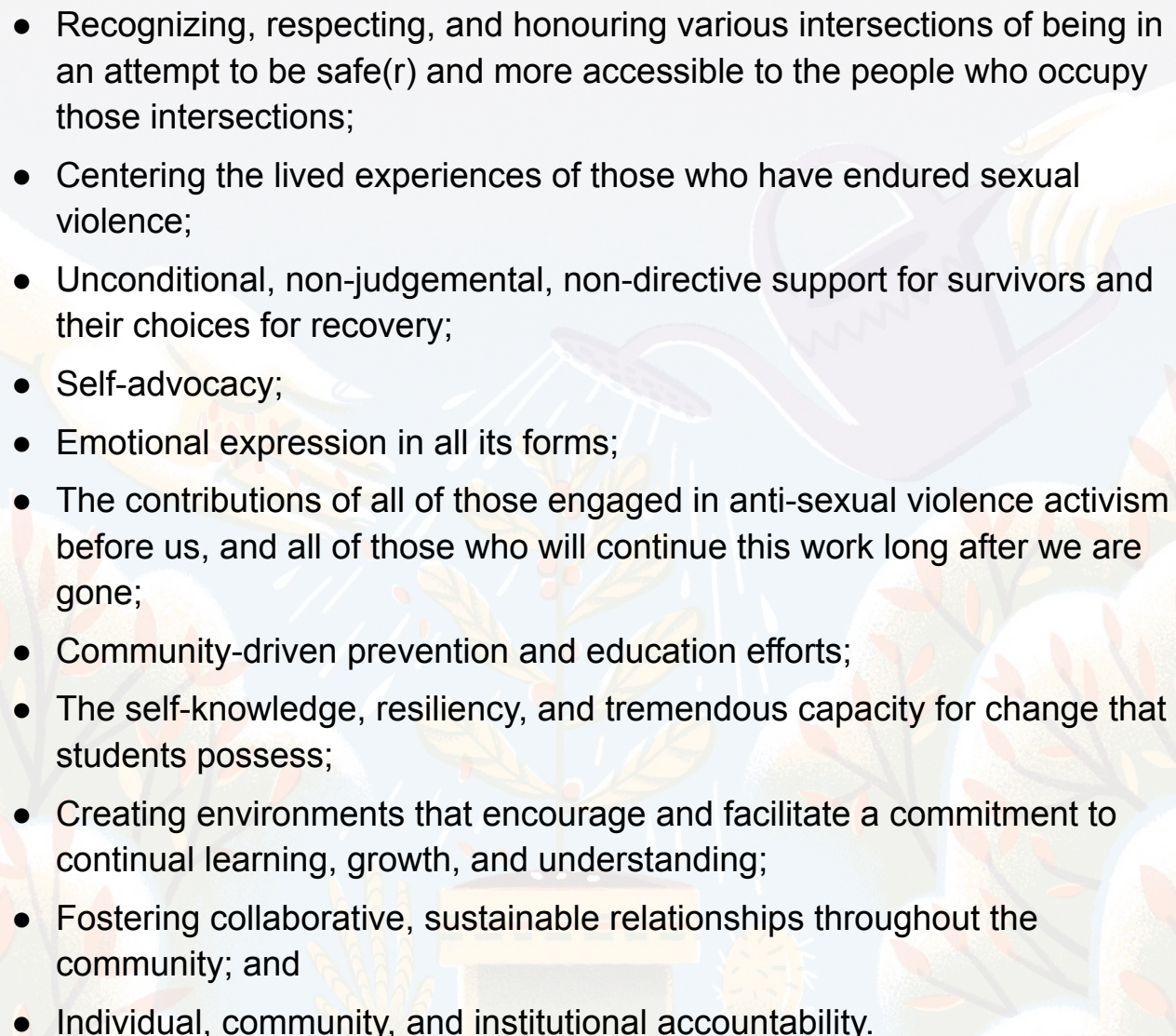




## Who We Are

The University of Alberta Sexual Assault Centre actively works towards creating a campus community free of sexual violence. We operate from a feminist, anti-oppressive, intersectional, trauma-informed, and client-centred framework. Part of this work entails recognizing the Centre's ongoing occupation of Treaty Six Papaschase territory in amiskwaciwâskahikan ᐱᑦᓴᕿᗵᐸᐅᓄᐃᖅ (Edmonton), as well as understanding our participation in this colonial project and how that complicates our relationship to anti-sexual violence prevention and education.

## Our Values

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- Recognizing, respecting, and honouring various intersections of being in an attempt to be safe(r) and more accessible to the people who occupy those intersections;
  - Centering the lived experiences of those who have endured sexual violence;
  - Unconditional, non-judgemental, non-directive support for survivors and their choices for recovery;
  - Self-advocacy;
  - Emotional expression in all its forms;
  - The contributions of all of those engaged in anti-sexual violence activism before us, and all of those who will continue this work long after we are gone;
  - Community-driven prevention and education efforts;
  - The self-knowledge, resiliency, and tremendous capacity for change that students possess;
  - Creating environments that encourage and facilitate a commitment to continual learning, growth, and understanding;
  - Fostering collaborative, sustainable relationships throughout the community; and
  - Individual, community, and institutional accountability.



## What We Do

At the U of A Sexual Assault Centre, we provide:

- Confidential and anonymous drop-in (in-person and virtual), telephone, email, and text/chat crisis intervention support and information for those affected by sexual assault or abuse, sexual harassment, relationship violence, stalking, or anyone who is supporting someone through any of those experiences;
- Options, referrals, and resources;
- Comprehensive one-on-one and group psychological services;
- Accompaniment and advocacy for individuals who choose to seek medical attention, decide to report to the police or U of A Protective Services, are involved in a court process or similar proceedings at the U of A, or are seeking institutional accommodation;
- Anti-sexual violence educational programming;
- Advising services for faculty and staff;
- Volunteer opportunities.

**Our Centre strives to be a safe(r) place on campus for everyone. Services are provided free of charge to people of all genders, sexualities, abilities, races, ethnicities, bodies, spiritualities, and immigration statuses.**



## Volunteer Training Information

To be prepared to provide quality services to U of A students, staff, and Faculty, our volunteers must participate in an in-depth Crisis Intervention (CI) or Anti-Sexual Violence Advocacy (ED) Training Programme.

Our training programmes consist of:

Approximately **15 hours of asynchronous, self-directed learning** via eClass.

- Volunteers are provided access to this eClass course in mid-July; approximately 2 weeks prior to the interactive, synchronous training sessions that run throughout August.

Approximately **60 hours of synchronous, in-person and virtual training sessions** throughout the month of August.

- Sessions are typically held on weekends and weeknights.
- Confirmed syllabus dates are provided to Volunteers in June, when positions are offered to successful applicants.

**Full attendance and participation in both the online eClass course and August training sessions are mandatory for all Volunteers** to ensure that we are continuing to provide a high calibre of support and education to the campus community.

**\*\*\*Although non-post secondary students are welcome to apply to volunteer with us, such applicants will be assessed for suitability on a case-by-case basis.** This is due to the nature of our in-person services and workshops often requiring one to be on campus to complete shifts.



## The Volunteer Programmes

At the UASAC, we have two volunteer cohorts: the Crisis Intervention (CI) Volunteer Programme and the Education (ED) Volunteer Programme. The following pages provide more in-depth information about the responsibilities relevant to each volunteer role. **Before filling out a volunteer application, please ensure you have read through the material associated with your programme of choice.**

**Crisis Intervention Volunteers** are primarily responsible for providing drop-in emotional support to folks who have experienced sexual violence and their supporters. [To skip to the section on the CI Volunteer Programme click here.](#)

**Education Volunteers** are primarily responsible for providing participatory workshops to the campus community on subjects such as supporting survivors, practicing consent, and preventing sexual violence. [To skip to the section on the Ed Volunteer Programme click here.](#)



## **The Crisis Intervention (CI) Volunteer Position**

Reporting to the Crisis Intervention Programme Coordinator, Volunteers with the UASAC CI Programme are responsible for providing emotional support, information, and resources to those who have been affected by sexual assault or abuse, sexual harassment, relationship violence, or stalking, as well as to those supporting someone through one of those experiences. Support is provided one-to-one in-person, virtually, through text and chat, or over the phone.

### **Goals**

- Provide an accessible, on-campus space for those who have experienced, or have been affected by, sexual violence to seek support;
- Foster a supportive community at the University of Alberta.

### **Responsibilities**

- Schedule 4 hours worth of shifts at the Centre each week with at least 4 hours of text and chat shifts a month and an expectation of completing regular evening shifts;
- Arrive on time for shift(s);
- Provide one-to-one, telephone, and/or text and chat support, information, and resources to individuals accessing the Centre's services;
- Debrief all support sessions with a UASAC Staff member in a timely manner;
- Complete appropriate paperwork for all support sessions as required;
- Perform reception duties when on shift (i.e. greeting clients and responding to general inquiries);
- Offer and accept constructive feedback as appropriate;
- Attend Centre meetings and events as schedule allows;
- Maintain confidentiality of staff, fellow volunteers, and individuals seeking support from the UASAC;
- Support with other UASAC-related tasks as necessary;



- Act as an ambassador for the UASAC at various community events;

### **Qualifications**

- Over 18 years of age at the time of application;
- Registered as a student of the U of A for the upcoming year;
- Holds values that are in support of, and in alignment with, the mandate, mission, and values of the Centre;
- Must possess and commit to further developing a nuanced and current understanding of the issue of sexual violence;
- Able to maintain a high level of professionalism, organization, and punctuality;
- Openness to learning and receiving constructive feedback;
- Proficient at working in highly sensitive, unsupervised situations;
- Excels at providing support to others with empathy, non-judgement, and respect.

### **Resources**

- Interactive online Crisis Intervention Volunteer Training modules;
- Dynamic 60-hour Crisis Intervention Volunteer Training Programme;
- Crisis Intervention Volunteer Training Workbook;
- Centre handouts and pamphlets;
- Regular Crisis Intervention Team Meetings;
- Access to the expertise of UASAC Staff and fellow volunteers.

### **Benefits**

- Gain experience providing crisis intervention support to individuals affected by sexual violence;
- Acquire and share knowledge about sexual violence with the campus community;
- Be an agent of social change.

### **Potential Concerns**

- Coping with highly emotional and potentially stressful situations.



## Crisis Intervention Volunteer Policies

Every volunteer at the Centre must abide by the following policies to ensure that they are able to meet the needs of our service and the broader campus community.

Volunteers must be **comfortable with and able to:**

- Provide services to persons of all ethnicities, cultural heritages, religious backgrounds, genders, sexual orientations, and abilities;
- Offer all three options (of adoption, abortion, and parenting) without judgment to anyone who presents with concerns of pregnancy;
- Maintain confidentiality, both during and after, volunteering at the Centre;
- Volunteer for a period of one academic year (September through April);
- Educate oneself on what consent is and is not, partake in consensual encounters with every partner, and engage in on our internal community accountability process if accused of an act of sexual violence while volunteering.

Volunteers **cannot:**

- Have used the Centre's support services regarding a personal experience of sexual violence within the last calendar year;
- Act as a representative of the Centre without completing an interview, reference checks, a Security Clearance Check, and Volunteer Training.

**If you are a self-motivated, passionate, driven, and compassionate anti-sexual violence advocate who is comfortable in crisis or high pressure situations, this could be the volunteer programme for you!**



## **The Education (ED) Volunteer Position**

Reporting to two Education Programme Coordinators, Volunteers with the UASAC Education Programme are responsible for providing interactive workshops to members of the U of A community. The workshops involve facilitating activities, discussions, and scenarios with members of the campus community. Topics may include: Supporting Survivors, Practicing Consent, Creating a Culture of Consent, and more!

### **Goals**

- Provide education and opportunities to engage with the issue of sexual violence to the campus community;
- Increase awareness of Centre services within the campus community;
- Gain confidence and skills in public speaking and facilitation;
- Develop the knowledge about sexual violence required to be an anti-sexual violence advocate;
- Be a part of a community with a shared goal of eradicating sexual violence;
- Be an agent of social change.

### **Responsibilities**

- Facilitate 1-4 workshops per month;
- Regularly update the workshop schedule with availability;
- Maintain a working knowledge of the workshops, including any edits;
- Coordinate with fellow volunteers prior to scheduled workshops;
- Debrief all workshops with an Education Programme Coordinator;
- Act as an ambassador for the UASAC at various community events;
- Offer and accept constructive feedback as appropriate;
- Attend Centre meetings and events as schedule allows;
- Maintain confidentiality of staff, fellow volunteers, and individuals seeking support from the UASAC;
- Support with other UASAC-related tasks as necessary.



The background of the page features a soft, pastel-colored illustration. At the top, a bright yellow sun with rays is partially obscured by white, fluffy clouds. Below the clouds, two hands are shown in a gentle, supportive gesture, one hand reaching up towards the other. The lower half of the page is filled with stylized, rounded bushes or trees in shades of light green and yellow, with small red berries or flowers. In the center, there are three potted plants: a tall, thin plant with yellow leaves, a small cactus in a purple pot, and a small plant in a brown pot. The overall aesthetic is warm, positive, and nurturing.

## Qualifications

- Over 18 years of age at the time of application;
- Registered as a student of the U of A for the upcoming year;
- Holds values that are in support of, and in alignment with, the mandate, mission, and values of the Centre;
- Must possess and commit to further developing a nuanced and current understanding of the issue of sexual violence;
- Able to maintain a high level of professionalism, organization, and punctuality;
- Interest in learning the skills to facilitate complex and highly sensitive concepts to peers on campus (previous experience an asset);
- Able to cope with highly emotional and potentially stressful situations;
- Open to learning and receiving constructive feedback;
- Ability to work within a team.

## Resources

- Online Education Volunteer Training modules;
- Anti-Sexual Violence Advocacy Training Programme;
- Regular Education Team Meetings;
- Access to the expertise of UASAC Staff and fellow volunteers.



## Education Volunteer Policies

Every volunteer at the Centre must abide by the following policies to ensure that they are able to meet the needs of our service and the broader campus community.

### **Volunteers must be comfortable with and able to:**

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- Act as an ambassador of the Centre;
- Maintain confidentiality both, during and after, volunteering at the Centre;
- Volunteer for a period of one academic year (September through April);
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### **Volunteers cannot:**

- Have used the Centre's support services regarding a personal experience of sexual violence within the last year;
- Act as a representative of the Centre without completing an interview, reference checks, a Security Clearance Check, and Volunteer Training.

**If you are a self-motivated, passionate, and compassionate anti-sexual violence advocate who enjoys sharing their knowledge, this could be the volunteer programme for you!**