

The British Dietetic Association Volunteer Role Descriptor Student Member; West Midlands Branch

Aims and Objectives of the Branch

- Provide educational opportunities to Dietitians to support Continuous Professional Development.
 - Provide a forum for Dietitians to meet and network.
 - Act as a source of communication between the BDA and local members.
 - Promote the sharing of information and examples of best practice.
 - Promote the role of the BDA in the West Midlands, including recruitment and retention of members.
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What the role has to offer

As a Student Member, you will work with the committee to represent student members, learn new skills and support the successful delivery of projects, education and networking for branch members. You'll have a particularly important role in providing views and perspectives of BDA student members, getting involved in projects of interest and promoting the work of the committee to students.

We don't expect you to do it alone; you'll work closely with the branch committee and with the support of the BDA staff team. This role offers the opportunity to network and learn from established committee members and dietitians to help you develop skills in key areas.

Through this role you will gain organisation, communication and project management skills, which can translate directly into career development. It will also give you an opportunity to network with dietitians across the BDA, building networks, sharing knowledge and skills.

Main tasks and responsibilities

- Support the committee in delivery of branch projects.
- Work closely with the BDA's Volunteering Team, seeking advice and guidance where needed.
- Learn from committee members with specific portfolios, getting involved and leading on specific projects as required.
- Undertake specific tasks as agreed with the committee e.g., social media, work on specific projects and tasks.
- Represent the views and perspectives of BDA student members.
- Promote the branch to students, including the promotion of events, resources and webinars.

Training, support and resources

Support for this role is offered by key committee members including the Chair, Vice Chair, Secretary and Treasurer who work as a team to set strategy, determine priorities and lead the committee to success.

We have a variety of resources, tools and training available to support this role including:

- Full induction with BDA staff and a full handover from the previous Student Member.
 - Training and development opportunities to help build personal and professional skills including workshops, webinars and the BDA's annual volunteer conference.
 - Committee leadership training to help build skills in strategy and governance.
 - Access to our volunteer handbook and Volunteer Hub providing a range of resources and guidance.
 - Regular communications including a monthly volunteer ezine with BDA updates and opportunities.
 - Networking with other volunteers through events, webinars and access to our volunteer forums.
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Length of service and commitment

You will be elected for a two-year term of office and hope that you will be able to stay in the role throughout this term. There is the option to extend for an additional two-year term. We hope that reasonable notice would be given if you are no longer able to fulfil this role, as we appreciate that circumstances can change.

Student members who undertake this role often transition into a full committee role once they have graduated.

There are a number of training and development opportunities available, including a detailed induction with BDA staff and governance training to be undertaken upon commencement of each term.

Committee meetings are held regularly and can be attended virtually if required. There is a varying and flexible amount of work in between meetings which is dependent on the strategy, workplans and projects agreed to by the committee.

The branch holds a minimum of one event for members a year which includes the Annual General Meeting. It is typical for the committee to attend these events.

Recruitment method

To apply for this role please submit a nomination form and a copy of your CV via <https://www.bda.uk.com/news-campaigns/get-involved/volunteers/volunteering-opportunities.html>

Nominees must be a member of the branch and provide the names and signatories of two BDA members to support their nomination.

If you would like an informal, confidential discussion about the role and the nomination process, please contact Roy Bustin at r.bustin@bda.uk.com.
