

Board Policy

Volunteers

It is the policy of the Board to encourage volunteerism within the guidelines of the ESBOCES Code of Conduct. The purpose of the volunteer program is to:

1. assist employees in providing more individualization and enrichment in programs and service delivery;
2. build an understanding of ESBOCES programs/services among interested citizens, thus stimulating widespread involvement in a total educational process;
3. strengthen community relations through positive participation.

Volunteers are persons who are willing to donate their time and energies to assist ESBOCES personnel in implementing various phases of ESBOCES programs and services. Volunteers shall serve in that capacity without compensation or employee benefits except for liability protection under the ESBOCES insurance program.

Services of volunteers may be accepted by the Board upon recommendation of the supervising administrator of the program and subject to completion of screening procedures outlined in the administrative regulation developed to implement the terms of this policy.

All volunteers may be subject to the same screening procedures used for regular ESBOCES employees, including, but not limited to, the following:

1. Volunteers will be required to provide references, who will be contacted before the volunteer begins service on ESBOCES grounds;
2. ESBOCES reserves the rights to request information on previous criminal convictions and to request a criminal background check; and
3. ESBOCES will maintain complete records of any information obtained through any of the pre-approval procedures, in accordance with the administrative regulation developed to implement the terms of this policy.

References:

- Volunteer Protection Act of 1997, 42 USC §14501, et seq.
- Education Law §§3023 and 3028
- Public Officers Law §18