

UCLan Student Volunteering

We are UCLan's Centre for Volunteering and Community Leadership (CVCL).

CVCL are achieved investors in the volunteers quality standard and we believe that sharing knowledge through volunteerism is key to creating emergent graduates as rounded, socially responsible individuals, who will continue to make positive impacts on society throughout their lives.

we have over 750 students registered with us and demand for our service is growing everyday. A lot of UCLan students live at home whilst they study, so we have students commute to us from across the Northwest.

Currently, we work with over 150 community organisations both nationally and internationally and every year, we support hundreds of students to gain valuable volunteering experience to further improve their life skills and enhance their employment prospects.

How to work with us

Any not-for-profit organisation can promote and register their volunteering vacancies on our online volunteering portal. We have over 500 UCLan students registered on the portal and many have an interest in pursuing regular volunteering opportunities. Follow the QR code below to register with us or visit us at: www.uclan.ac.uk/centres/volunteering to find out more.



How to attract student volunteers

There are a number of ways to make sure your organisation is selling itself to students:

1. Make sure you add volunteering opportunities using the 'Add Opportunity' button. Registering with us only makes you visible to CVCL admins. You need to add opportunities so that your vacancies are live and searchable for students.
2. Uploaded a logo. Something bold and eye catching, like a logo, makes your organisation much more attractive to students.
3. State clearly under each opportunity how students should contact you or apply for a vacancy. Make sure that your mailboxes are monitored or that you acknowledge receipt of an application as soon as it is received.

Recognition for student volunteers

Once you start hosting a UCLan student volunteer, make sure that you encourage students to log their volunteering hours using the online volunteering portal. CVCL offer a range of volunteering awards that have been developed to recognise the contributions of student volunteers. It is a thank you for all the work, time and effort they put in with us and the local community.

These awards are presented during our annual celebration event, so please encourage student volunteers to log their hours through their CVCL account and they could achieve the following:

- 30 hours = Bronze Award
- 60 hours = Silver Award
- 100 hours = Gold Award
- 300 hours = Platinum Award
- 500 hours = Vice Chancellors Award of Excellence

If student volunteers manage to log 100 volunteering hours, they could be eligible for an ILM Recognition Award in Volunteering. Similarly, when they graduate, we will add their volunteering activity to their degree transcript, so that they can demonstrate to employers what they've been up to whilst studying at UCLan.

DBS checks

We understand that not all organisations are a registered body for DBS. At CVCL, we can undertake DBS checks for UCLan students on an organisations behalf. Please contact us if you require this support. Unfortunately, we cannot offer DBS checks for non-UCLan students.



Professional accredited courses

CVCL offers a range of vocational courses designed to support the growth and development of organisations who are leaders in the community. We offer heavily discounted Institute of Leadership and Management (ILM) courses in:

- Level 3 ILM Award in Management of Volunteers
- Level 3 ILM Award in Effective Mentoring
- Level 5 ILM Certificate in Coaching and Mentoring
- Level 7 ILM Award in Leadership and Management
- Level 7 ILM Certificate in Leadership and Management

Courses start dates vary. Please follow the QR code to our Learning and Development webpage for more information.



Volunteering celebration event 2024

Every year, CVCL recognises the achievements of UCLan students and community volunteers and leaders from across Lancashire as part of an annual celebration event. As a university we want to take time every year to thank volunteers for the skills, commitment and thousands of volunteer hours given.

The celebration event consists of an awards ceremony where high profile UCLan VIP's present different awards to students and community volunteers. The presentation of the awards is interspersed with some live showcases from various UCLan student societies. The events' live entertainment can include anything from singing, to dancing and drama. All shortlisted community nominees will be invited to attend the event and it will truly be a night to remember.

This year, UCLan's celebration event will take place on the evening of Wednesday 24 April 2024 at our Preston campus. For this year only, we can offer hotel accommodation for shortlisted nominees and their guests who are travelling to the event from further afield. Please note that hotel accommodation is limited and it will be allocated based on CVCL's discretion.

We are now opening nominations for the following community awards:

Community Volunteer of the Year Award 2024

Would you like to nominate someone who has gone the extra mile this year? Do they show an unbelievable commitment and bring massive value to your organisation? If so, you can nominate them for UCLan's Community Volunteer of the year using the QR code below.

Community Team of the Year Award 2024

Is your organisation supporting a team of volunteers who do amazing work? However big or small their contribution, are they making a difference? If so, then give them the recognition they deserve and nominate them using the QR code below.

The Lifetime Achievement Award 2024

Has your organisation been supported by a volunteer over the space of many years? Are they trusted and respected by people who access your organisations services? If so, then what a way to thank them by nominating them for UCLan's Lifetime Achievement Award.

Please note that the deadline for nominations is Friday 29 March 2024.

