

# volunteer



*Working with a campaign is a great way to make sure your voice is heard while getting a first-hand look at the political process. Campaigns are always in need of great help in the form of supporters, volunteers, and interns, and there are jobs for everyone. No experience is necessary, since training will be provided on the job.*



## **SPREAD THE WORD**

*The simplest thing that you can do to help a candidate is to spread the word about them. Talk to people about why you support the candidate and where they can find more information. Wear a campaign button, sticker, or t-shirt. Put a rally sign in your window, a lawn sign in the front lawn, or a bumper sticker on your car.*



## **PHONE CALLING**

*A major need of any campaign is for volunteers to help with phone calling efforts. Campaigns commonly call potential voters to talk about their candidate, gauge levels of support, issue invitations to campaign events, and to solicit volunteer time or donations. The campaign will provide you with a script or talking points, a list of names to call, and any other instruction.*



## **DOOR KNOCKING**

*Door-knocking, also sometimes called canvassing, is a great way to combine working in your community on behalf of your candidate. Door-knocking is exactly what it*

sounds like—campaigns send out volunteers and staff into neighborhoods to talk to potential voters face-to-face.



## LIT DROP

A lit drop is most often done in conjunction with door-knocking and essentially involves leaving pieces of campaign literature at people's doorsteps. If you're not too excited about talking to people at the doors but are still willing to take a walk, offer to help lit drop. This is also a very common late-night activity on the night before Election Day and can be a lot of fun.



## WORK AT EVENTS

Even the smallest campaign event usually needs more help than the campaign staff can provide. Most events will need volunteers to greet people as they arrive, hand out literature or accept donations, or to help set-up and take-down the event. Campaigns may put out a general call for volunteers to work at a large event, but in many cases they will be more likely to ask volunteers whom they already know and trust to help work events.



## MAILINGS

As you're probably aware, campaigns can send out a lot of mail. Literature pieces, invitations to fundraisers and events, reminders to go and vote, and other mail can take a lot of time and man-power to get ready. Assisting with mailings is a good opportunity to help the campaign while getting a chance to talk and have fun with other supporters.



## DATA ENTRY

Every campaign collects a great deal of data—names of potential volunteers, information about campaign donations, and reports of results from door knocks or phone banks. Using volunteers to help organize all this information into the campaign databases will help the staff stay up-to-date. Data-entry volunteers need to be reliable, accurate, and able to keep info (like people's addresses) confidential.



## **SIGNAGE**

*Putting a lawn sign in your yard is a good way to advertise your support for specific candidates. Campaigns also need a lot of help getting those lawn signs out to the people who want them. The campaign will give you a list of addresses to deliver to, but you'll need access to transportation and a couple of free hours to get the job done.*



## **RESOURCES**

*Democratic National Committee—[www.democrats.org](http://www.democrats.org)*

*Republican National Committee—[www.rnc.org](http://www.rnc.org)*

*Green Party—[www.gp.org](http://www.gp.org)*

*Libertarian Party of the USA—[www.lp.org](http://www.lp.org)*