Volunteering with Alzheimer’s Research UK

Lay Reviewer

Thank you!

Thank you for your interest in becoming a Lay Reviewer volunteer for Alzheimer’s Research UK.

Alzheimer’s Research UK is the fastest growing medical research charity in the UK, tackling dementia, the world’s greatest medical challenge. In order to fund the best quality scientific research, all research applications go through a rigorous review process. Lay Reviewers play a really important role in this process.

What does a Lay Reviewer volunteer do?

Lay Reviewers help us review research grant applications that are received from scientists for projects that involve people. You’ll be involved in important activities and opportunities including:

- Reading a selection of research grant application project summaries
- Completing a short review form to provide comments
- Considering whether the projects are feasible, reasonable, practical and well-thought out for people living with dementia.
- Providing feedback remotely, but volunteers may be invited to attend Grant Review Board panel meetings as an observer (to see how their comments are included in the funding decision process)

How much time will I have to commit?

We are looking for people who can commit just a few hours once or twice a year. The impact of these hours will make a big difference to Alzheimer’s Research UK.

What are the personal benefits?

In return, as one of ARUK’s fantastic volunteers you’ll benefit from:

- Opportunities to join a platform to have your voice heard and valued
- A tangible contribution to improving dementia research through direct feedback
- Personal satisfaction that your input will positively impact people living with dementia
- Opportunities to observe Grant Review Board panel meetings
- Being part of a movement that believes we can make breakthroughs possible.
- A key contact for all your queries throughout your role.

You will also be reimbursed for reasonable out-of-pocket expenses.
What and who are we looking for?

Ideally you’ll have some of the following:

- Personal experience of dementia (perhaps caring for a loved one, or working in a caring profession)
- Willingness to represent people living with dementia.
- Good literacy skills
- Confident in using a computer and in using email.
- Ability to provide prompt reviews to set timescales.
- A passion for the work of Alzheimer’s Research UK.

Why volunteer with us?

Our volunteers tell us that volunteering is fun and rewarding, and it helps them meet new people and have new experiences. But most importantly, it’s their way to help challenge the way people think about dementia. Many of our volunteers have been affected in one way or another by dementia. Often, they’ve cared for a friend or family member with dementia. Volunteering for Alzheimer’s Research UK is their way of being part of the community whose mission is to bring about the first life-changing dementia treatment by 2025. When you volunteer with Alzheimer’s Research UK, you’re helping us make breakthroughs possible.

Our promise to you

When you become an Alzheimer’s Research UK volunteer, we’ll always treat you with respect, consideration and appreciation. We’ll listen to what you have to say and ask you what you think. We’ll make sure you’re always working in a friendly and encouraging atmosphere. And of course, your health, safety and welfare are our top priority. We’ll be there to support you and make sure you know exactly what you’re doing. To keep you up to date with what’s happening in our volunteering community, we’ll send you our regular newsletter and e-newsletters.

What’s the next step?

To apply, please fill in our online application form: [www.alzheimersresearchuk.org/volunteeringlau-reviewers](http://www.alzheimersresearchuk.org/volunteeringlau-reviewers)

If you have any general enquiries about this role please contact the Volunteering team by email [volunteer@alzheimersresearchuk.org](mailto:volunteer@alzheimersresearchuk.org) or telephone 0300 111 5 555. For further details visit our website: [www.alzheimersresearchuk.org/volunteer](http://www.alzheimersresearchuk.org/volunteer)