

Marching Band Volunteer FAQs



Our band heavily relies on volunteers to function! The more we can do as parents for our band means that our directors and instructors can focus on what they do best – educating our kids! Here is a brief peek at some ways you can help give our kids the best experience possible!

Uniform Fittings

When?

-6 to 8 volunteer helpers are needed for our two days of fittings, the week before band camp starts

What would I do?

Before our students set foot in rehearsal, we need to make sure everyone has a uniform and they know what to expect at band camp! These volunteers are responsible for making sure our students have well-fitting uniforms and are all prepared to start band camp the following week. At our uniform fitting events, families pass through stations to try on uniform parts, purchase extra items, sign up for volunteer spots, check communication data, and more. Volunteering for this event means that you will be sitting at a station aiding students and families do any of these tasks and recording the data as necessary. This is a great way to help if you like meeting the band families and are interested in preparing our students to look and feel well prepared for the season!

Uniform Alterations

When?

-2 to 4 volunteers are needed in July, August, and various times throughout the season

What?

We want our students to look their best when in their “super-suit”! Occasionally, a button or zipper may fall off, a seam may come undone, or a hat may come apart. These volunteers make any alterations needed as determined by our uniform fittings, help alter and keep our uniforms in good working order, and occasionally may take home a uniform or two to have a go at a sewing machine. This is a great way to help if you have experience with a sewing machine or fabric construction!

Band Camp Lunch Prep & Serve

When?

-6 to 8 volunteers are needed during the two weeks of band camp, around 10:00-1:30 each day

What would I do?

Marching burns a lot of calories! These volunteers make sure our students are well fed in an organized and efficient fashion. Our Band Camp Lunch Volunteers help set up and break down the cafeteria and food for serving. We serve lunch in an “assembly line” format, so you would be responsible for dishing out food on students’ plates. These volunteers also help pack/clean up lunch and prepare for a new set of volunteers to take over the next day. This is a great way to volunteer if you have any experience in food service, or like to work efficiently and quickly. This is a great place to get other siblings involved as well!

Band Camp Rehearsal Chaperone

When?

-2 chaperones are needed every day during Band camp (two weeks in July, Mon-Fri) Either the morning shift (8am-noon) or the afternoon shift (1pm-6:15)

What would I do?

The July heat is like an oven, and learning how to march is a very physically demanding activity! Our band camp chaperones are responsible for helping to keep our students hydrated, and to be on-hand in case of any emergency medical-related situations during rehearsal. These volunteers set up the first aid station at our rehearsal field (folding table, folding chairs, water coolers, first aid kit, emergency contact binder). Once the first-aid station is set these volunteers are on stand-by in case of student injury, illness, or emergency. These don't happen too frequently, so our volunteers typically bring a book to read while they remain at the ready for any unexpected accidents! This is a great place to volunteer if you have any medical training or if you're interested in seeing what exactly your child does during marching band rehearsal!

Normal Rehearsal Chaperone

When?

-2 volunteers are needed at every Tuesday and Thursday afternoon rehearsal during the season (3-6:15pm)

What?

This volunteer role functions exactly like the above "Band Camp Rehearsal Chaperone", except it is during the school year during our normal rehearsals. This is a great way to get involved if you have one or many early afternoons free!

Football Game Chaperone

When?

6 to 8 chaperones are needed at every football game, both home and away

What would I do?

Football games are exciting events! There is always something going on, and as the main entertainment for halftime, we are on a strict schedule! Our football game chaperones help "grease the cogs" so to speak in making sure our students are able to give their best performance when Showtime starts. Volunteering for this role, you will help our students get water as necessary (in the form of bottled water), chaperone the bus rides for away games (GCPS requires two adults per bus), pass out and collect uniform pieces before and after our performance. This is a great role to volunteer in if you enjoy the atmosphere of the "Friday Night Lights", or if you want to see your child perform from the field level!

Competition/Gwinnett Marching Exhibition Chaperone

When?

-6 to 8 chaperones are needed during away performances. One Exhibition performance and two competitions per season.

What would I do?

Saturday show days are the highlight of our season! Volunteers for these events take on an identical role as the "Football Game chaperones", the only difference being that these events are usually full-day events, opposed to Friday evening events. Additional roles may include passing out snack food and/or other small tasks. This is a great place to volunteer if you are interested in traveling with the band and enjoy watching other marching bands!

Fall Festival Chaperone

When?

-2 to 4 chaperones are need on the morning of the Fall Festival Parade, the last Saturday in September.

What?

The Fall Festival is Duluth's biggest event of the year, and we have the privilege of being one of the parade headliners! These volunteers make sure that our marching band can physically travel down the road with no interruptions. Volunteers will walk with the band and keep an eye out for any obstruction the band may face during the parade (excited by-stander, herding the band around animal by-product, etc), and be there in case of any medical-related emergency with our students during the parade. This is a great event to volunteer for if you enjoy walking, or if you've always wanted to be in a parade!

Concession Stand Chaperone

When?

-Every home football game (4 to 5 Fridays)

What?

Our concession stand is responsible for bringing in a large percentage of funds that we need to run our program! Volunteers for the concession stand will be cooking, preparing, or serving concession stand food or acting as cashier. This is a great place to volunteer if you can cook a delicious cheeseburger or hot dog!

Pit-Crew/Roadies

When?

-6 to 8 strong volunteers are needed every marching band performance, which is all football games, exhibitions, and competitions.

What?

The marching band travels with a lot of equipment! These volunteers help our students load and unload their equipment while they change into/out of their uniform. They also help our Front Ensemble move from location to location, as many of the larger keyboard instruments are too heavy to be moved across difficult terrain by a single student. These volunteers are responsible for loading and unloading the equipment trailer/truck with instruments and percussion equipment at every show site. These volunteers need to be strong, as much of the role involves lifting equipment and cases into and out of a truck or trailer. This is a great way to get involved if you're in a healthy condition to move equipment!

Prop/Construction Crew

When?

-A team of volunteers is needed at various times throughout the season

What?

Our halftime field performance is similar to a giant stage production! Sometimes, we use props to help convey the theme of our halftime show. These volunteers help in the planning and construction process of the props. This is a great way to get involved if you are handy with power tools, or know your way around Home Depot!

Volunteer Leadership Positions

In addition to the number of hands needed, we also rely on volunteers to organize, plan, and act as “Lead Volunteers” or “Head Organizers” for key areas in our marching band program. These roles are typically more involved, but great for those volunteers who work best if they “drive the ship”. If you’re interested in playing a larger role in our program, we would love to have you on the team!

Band Camp Food Leader

This person plans out the meals every day for band camp ahead of time, and arranges for the food to be delivered/picked up each day. This is a great position for event planners!

Volunteer Leader

This person is responsible for filling volunteer spots by contacting parents as well as recording the hours of each volunteer. This is a great position for social butterflies!

Uniform Leader

This person is responsible for keeping the records of what uniform pieces each student is assigned, organizing the hangers in a logical way on the uniform racks, and keeping track of damaged/functional uniform pieces. This is a great position for those who love to be highly organized!

Concession Leader

This person is responsible for keeping and preparing inventory for our concession stand. This involves stocking the concession stand before Friday games, and keeping track of consumable inventory. This person also delegates jobs in the concession stand to those who volunteer! This is a great position for manager type individuals!

Pit Crew/Roadie Leader

This person is responsible for the organization of equipment and cases as they get loaded and unloaded into the truck/trailer. This is a great position for any Tetris wizards or those great at packing the car for family vacations!

Sponsorship Leader

This person is responsible for soliciting, tracking, and honoring corporate sponsorships. This is a great position for the business savvy, or anyone with marketing experience!