

Volunteer Photographer

The Multiple System Atrophy Trust is the UK and the Republic of Ireland's leading charity supporting people affected by multiple system atrophy (MSA) – a rare neurological disease with no known cause or cure. As a small charity, we rely on volunteers to help us raise awareness of MSA and support our community.

The MSA Trust's fundraising, training and support events are special days where the MSA community can come together to share experiences, raise money and support each other. We want to have a record of these events that can be shared with our community and used to raise awareness.

What the role involves

As a volunteer photographer, you'll join us at events to record the highlights and take pictures of our fundraisers and support community. You might be photographing runners at a big fundraiser like the London Marathon, documenting attendees at a support group, or capturing the magic of a social event in our dedicated woodland. This role gives you the chance to develop your creative skills and build your portfolio with a valued charity.

This is a flexible role. You can choose to volunteer at a single event, or you can volunteer on a range of events and projects.

The images you take will be used to raise awareness of the work we do and to promote future events. They might be used on our website or in our publications.

You might be asked to

- Join staff at a large fundraising event, at a cheerpoint or welcome station, to photograph runners and supporters.
- Attend an MSA support group to document group activities.
- Photograph a special event such as our annual Tree Planting, Summer Social or MSA Candlelight.
- Capture images at training days or conferences.
- Work with staff and volunteers to create images for our website, publications or social media.
- Get consent from group attendees to take their photograph, and record consent using a form provided by the Trust.

What skills are needed?

- Good photography skills, either as a professional, a student or an enthusiastic amateur.
- Able to capture the atmosphere of MSA Trust events.
- Approachable and friendly.
- Good communication skills.
- Uploading and sharing photographs.
- Reliable and dependable, able to attend agreed events and deliver images on time.
- Willing to work with staff and share ideas.
- Sensitive to the needs of people living with a disability, their family and friends.

What you can expect from us

- A named role manager to support you.
- Staff support to explain what's needed and answer your questions.
- Being part of a friendly team.
- An induction to make sure you feel confident and safe before an event and have an understanding of multiple system atrophy.
- Good communication and clear direction.
- Experience working with a valued charity organisation.
- Working with staff to develop project briefs.
- Credit given for all photographs used.
- The chance to gain confidence and have fun.
- Help with pre-agreed travel expenses.
- Experience in working with people affected by MSA.
- Ongoing communications, including news about volunteering opportunities, volunteer newsletters and free MSA News magazine.

What we ask of you

- To have access to your own good quality camera, able to meet high technical specifications.
- To respond to communications from staff promptly.
- To arrive on time at events.
- Commitment to cover agreed hours of volunteering.
- To upload and share photographs to agreed deadlines.
- To be reliable and dependable.
- Have an enthusiasm for the work the MS Trust does.
- Act as a positive ambassador for the MSA Trust.
- Be sensitive to the needs and feelings of people affected by MSA.
- Treat all people with MSA and their family and friends with respect.
- Respect the privacy and confidentiality of the people you encounter while you're volunteering.
- To complete an agreement form related to use of any images you take on behalf of the MSA Trust.
- Not to use, process or share images for your own personal use.
- Abide by the Trust's data protection and confidentiality rules.

You may be asked to complete a Disclosure and Barring Service check, which the MSA Trust will pay for.

If you have any questions about this role, please email volunteer@msatrust.org.uk