

STEM Inspiration Volunteer



Volunteering at The Big Bang Fair [video >](#)

Overview

[The Big Bang UK Young Scientists & Engineers Fair](#) is the largest celebration of science, technology, engineering and maths (STEM) for young people in the UK. Everything we do is aimed at showing young people (primarily aged 7-19) how many exciting and rewarding opportunities there are out there for them with the right experience and qualifications.

- Where: The NEC, Birmingham
- Dates: 13 – 16 March 2019
- Time: 8am – 4pm
- Contact: Elena (Volunteer Manager) EMartin-Laguna@engineeringuk.com

[Apply here >](#)

Why do we need you?

The Big Bang Fair needs you to share your time and energy to help ensure our 'Meet the Future You' careers networking activity runs smoothly. This is a fun and interactive activity which provides a fantastic **opportunity to bust myths and shine light** on the real, working world of STEM.

With over 80,000 visitors in 2018, The Big Bang Fair simply couldn't run without the support of our amazing volunteers. We need over **400 volunteers for next year's Fair**. You can volunteer a minimum of 1 day and up to 4 days.

What activities will you be involved in?

This is a very public-facing role. It is an exciting opportunity for an enthusiastic individual looking to engage and inspire young people and give them a much clearer idea of what scientists, engineers and those who work and study in STEM fields do.

As a STEM Inspiration Volunteer, you would be involved in the **'Meet the Future You' activity** that takes place in a large, inflatable dome.

- Taking part in a series of structured and timed workshops facilitated by a professional presenter.
- Answering questions from young visitors about your job. Questions like:



How did you get your job?

What are the best and worst bits of your job?

What advice would you give a young person interested in your sector? ...and much, much more!

What skills and abilities are we looking for?

Our volunteers play a vital role in making The Big Bang Fair a massive success. We are looking for volunteers who are **friendly, reliable and enjoy working with young people**.

We are looking for volunteers at **every stage of their STEM career** – apprentices, graduates, PhD researchers and people who have been working for many years. We want to hear from you if you are a developer, a doctor, a biologist, a physicist, an engineer... the list is endless! We are especially looking for these qualities in our volunteers:

- Welcoming and polite manner towards visitors.
- Supportive and enthusiastic to help our young visitors feel comfortable to ask questions freely.
- A natural communicator who is happy to share information about their education and career path.
- Ability to motivate and inspire young people, helping them to relate their interests to potential STEM-related subjects.
- Energy, passion and a love of talking about their specialist area.

If you have any questions about these requirements, please do not hesitate to contact us as soon as possible so we can discuss any reasonable adjustments.

View our volunteering and diversity and inclusion policies [here](#).

What can you gain from this opportunity?

- Having a **rewarding experience** making a difference to young people's career aspirations and inspiring them to consider different pathways.
- Showing them how their studies could lead to a career in science, technology, engineering or maths.
- Extensive **networking** opportunities, joining an enthusiastic team of people.
- Practical and hands-on experience in an **exceptional educational event**, enjoyed by visitors of all ages.
- Opportunity to progress and become a volunteer Team Leader.

Most importantly, you will have a fun day!

Is there any training?

We aim to give all our volunteers a unique experience at the Big Bang Fair. We will provide you with training and support throughout your volunteering role:

- Interactive **induction** for new volunteers (45 mins, online).
- **Specific briefing** about The Fair for all activities volunteers (45 mins, online).
- Volunteer **Handbook**.
- **On-site briefing** on the day (30 mins, face to face). Arrival 8 am for a prompt start at 8.15 am. If you are volunteering more than one day you don't need to attend the briefing on the following day.
- **On-site support and supervision** from the Volunteer Manager, Careers team and volunteer Team Leaders.

Who should you contact? What are the next steps?

To apply, please complete the online application form [here](#). For more information about the roles, please contact **Elena Laguna (Volunteer Manager)** on EMartin-Laguna@engineeringuk.com or 07934295509.

