

Volunteer Facilitator FAQs

Facilitators are an integral part of the A.B.L.E. ensemble. Each session is staffed with 2 teaching artists, rounded out by 3 to 5 facilitators, maintaining a 2:1 ratio of actors:support team. These volunteers participate side-by-side with A.B.L.E. actors to ensure everyone has a productive, supportive, and fun rehearsal. Read on to see if this role is right for you.

What are the requirements?

- Age 18 or older
- Enthusiasm & patience to build positive, respectful, and motivating relationships with individuals with developmental differences.
- Excellent communication skills
- A proactive and collaborative work ethic
- Adaptability and responsiveness
- Sense of humor and a willingness to be silly.
- A passion for the performing arts and inclusion
- Must complete a criminal background check through A.B.L.E.'s partner, Verified Volunteers

What do facilitators do?

- Participate in class games/activities
- Model exercises and encourage bold choices
- Partner with actors in exercises and onstage
- Offer individual attention and assistance for actors who need additional support
- Motivate and encourage the ensemble
- Assist teaching artists with other needs (studio set-up & clean up, attendance, photos, social media posts, etc.)
- Dance, play, and have fun!

What kind of training do facilitators need?

Facilitators come from many personal and professional backgrounds. No formal education or acting background is required. All new facilitators must attend a 2 hour orientation with prior to the start of their first semester. A.B.L.E. offers additional professional development trainings throughout the year for all staff and volunteers.

What is the Time Commitment?

A.B.L.E.'s ensembles run for two semesters each season, from September to December and February to May, with a performance at the end of each semester. A typical semester is comprised of:

- 1 ensemble orientation
- 10 regular weekly rehearsals
- 1 facilitator tech rehearsal
- 1 dress rehearsal
- 1 public performance

We know our volunteers have busy lives outside of A.B.L.E., and so have 2 different levels of commitment:

Rotating Facilitator (Estimated 20hrs per semester):

This track is for first-time facilitators, or those who need more flexibility. Rotating facilitators are expected to attend orientation as well as the first and last rehearsal each semester, and may sign up for any 3 additional regular rehearsals to suit their schedule.

Core Facilitator (Estimated 40hrs per semester):

This track is for facilitators who already have at least 1 semester of experience with A.B.L.E.. Core facilitators take on more responsibilities in performance, and so are expected to attend at least 8 rehearsals as well as all other sessions for their ensemble..

In addition to A.B.L.E.'s ensemble program, we also frequently host one-time workshops and outreach sessions for partner organizations throughout the year. All facilitators are invite to sign up for these opportunities as they become available.

Is there compensation for this role?

No. This is strictly a volunteer position.



For additional questions and information, contact:
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