VOLUNTEER PROGRAMME ON THE CAMINO
UNIVERSITY WALKING COMMUNITY 2024
I.- OBJECT

The University Walking Community programme was created with the aim of making it easier for the university community to carry out voluntary actions on the Pilgrims' Route to Santiago de Compostela and in public institutions. The aim is to promote through the activity values of cooperation, solidarity, diversity, tolerance and unity.

The University Walking Community 2024 edition tries to mobilise the younger community of the Compostela Group of Universities (GCU) to carry out municipal and university volunteering actions linked to the Camino de Santiago in Spain.

The activity is organised by the Compostela Group of Universities (GCU) and the Association of Municipalities of the Camino de Santiago (AMCS), with the special collaboration of the City Council of Jaca and the Government of Aragon.

II.- TARGET PARTICIPANTS

The University Walking Community 2024 programme is open to people aged between 18 and 30 who are linked to a CGU member university by contractual, study or research ties.

The programme, which is inclusive in nature, is also open to participants with accredited functional diversity, as long as this is compatible with the exercise of the specific volunteering activities to be carried out at the destination.

III.- DATES AND PLACE OF IMPLEMENTATION

The volunteering actions of the University Walking Community 2024 programme will be carried out continuously for 15 days from 1 August to 15 August 2024, both days included.
The activity will preferably take place in Jaca or in one of the municipalities located along the Camino Francés through the Autonomous Community of Aragon (Spain).

IV.- CONTENT OF THE ACTIVITY

The volunteer tasks will consist of providing support to the agents and actors of the local community in matters of assistance to pilgrims, information, organisation of activities, accompaniment, management of spaces and field work, always related to environmental, socio-cultural and academic issues. Collaboration will be provided to municipal entities, associations, universities and other entities linked to the purposes described.

At the beginning of the activity, the selected persons will:

a) receive a volunteer course.

b) be assigned a person in charge of organising the conditions of their stay, allocations of tasks and monitoring the volunteer activities.

c) voluntarily participate in complementary activities that might be established (e.g. cultural, recreational, university).

V.- COVERAGE AND PLACEMENTS

The current call has 15 places open to volunteering.
The beneficiaries must reach the city of Jaca\(^1\) by their own means and resources (see location map [here]\(^2\)). Travel costs to and from Jaca shall be covered by each participant. In order to facilitate their arrival and departure, the local organisers will provide participants with the necessary information and support to prepare their trip.

During the period of volunteering, participants will be covered by a **civil liability and accident insurance** underwritten by the organising or collaborating entities. It will be the responsibility of the participants to have medical coverage (public and/or private) during the whole period of volunteering.

The Compostela Group of Universities and the Association of Municipalities of the Camino de Santiago will cover the following aspects for each selected participant:

- **Accommodation** during the volunteering period.
- **Meals** during the volunteering period. On the days of arrival and return, one unique meal will be covered only.
- **Local transport** to the destination points for the volunteer work and from there to the meeting point.
- The **means** deemed necessary to carry out the volunteer action.
- **Participation** in any complementary recreational activities that may be carried out.

VI.- SUBMISSION OF APPLICATIONS

In order to apply for the places offered in this call, applicants must present the following documentation:

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\(^1\) [https://www.jaca.es/oficina.html#](https://www.jaca.es/oficina.html#) (website available in Spanish only).

\(^2\) [https://www.google.com/maps/d/viewer?mid=1xrS9i2ytcmj8drgpoYpS4iLFFc&hl=en_US&ll=42.57257876575906%2C-0.5497911940765343&z=16](https://www.google.com/maps/d/viewer?mid=1xrS9i2ytcmj8drgpoYpS4iLFFc&hl=en_US&ll=42.57257876575906%2C-0.5497911940765343&z=16)
a) Application form, to be completed online. See link here.³

b) Certification of the relationship that the applicant has with a CGU member university in the year 2024.

c) Accreditation of Spanish or English language by means of a certificate. The applicant must prove his/her competence in the language in which he/she is not a native speaker.

d) Scanned copy of all the pages with information from the national identity card or passport.

In addition, applicants shall provide a document accrediting, if applicable, the following merits:

a) Accreditation of previous experience in volunteering by means of a certificate.

b) Accreditation of membership in associations or groups pursuing social or humanitarian interests.

The deadline for applications is 10 June 2024 (12.00 PM GMT).

VII.- CRITERIA FOR SELECTION

a) Accreditation of Spanish or English language (in which he/she is not a native speaker). Level A (1 point), level B (1.5 points) and level C (2 points).

b) Previous experience in volunteering. Up to two activities (1 point) and more than two (2 points).

³ https://airtable.com/app9VBd7VYcT4DiFW/shrg9D1iZcGogg0x7
(c) Membership of associations or groups pursuing social or humanitarian interests. One association/group (1 point) and two or more (2 points).

In addition to the criteria outlined above, objective criteria such as gender parity, inclusion of people with functional diversity and geographical distribution will be taken into account during the selection process.

VIII.- PUBLICATION OF RESOLUTION

The list of selected candidates and substitutes for the University Walking Community 2024 programme will be published in June of this year on the website of the Compostela Group of Universities (www.gcompostela.org).

IX.- AWARDING OF THE PLACE AND FORMALISATION

The person selected must formalise acceptance of the placement by sending the following documents to grupo.compostela@usc.es:

a) Declaration of responsibility of acceptance and commitment to stay as a volunteer for fifteen days, according to the given model. See model here.  

b) Accreditation of travel arrangements: invoice or proof of booking and payment of the trip to the city of Jaca.

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The selected person will have until 7 July 2024 (inclusive) to complete these steps. If this documentation is not submitted by the deadline, the person will have lost their right to do so, and the vacancy will be filled by the substitute.

Once at the destination, the beneficiary shall sign an individual volunteering agreement, in which the rights and duties that correspond to him/her during the period of volunteering and the penalties for non-compliance will be established.

X. – RECOGNITION OF VOLUNTARY ACTIVITY

At the end of the volunteering period, the participant will receive a diploma certifying his/her activity as a volunteer of the University Walking Community 2024, provided that he/she has demonstrated the effective use of his/her participation and that he/she has carried out his/her volunteering activity correctly and satisfactorily in line with the objectives of the voluntary action programme at the destination.

XI. – ACCEPTANCE OF THE TERMS AND CONDITIONS OF THE PROGRAMME

Participation in this programme implies acceptance of all its terms and conditions. In accordance with Organic Law 3/2018 on the protection of personal data, by signing the registration form, the participant consents to the Compostela Group of Universities processing his/her personal data related to the programme procedures.

For all matters not provided for in these guidelines, the provisions of Spanish legislation in force at the time of publication of this call for applications shall apply.

The participant undertakes to complete the entire mobility period. The agreements formalising the volunteering activity will establish the corresponding sanctions in case of non-compliance or unjustified interruption.
In order to ensure the correct implementation of the volunteering programme, the Compostela Group of Universities reserves the right to interpret any doubts or loopholes that may arise in the application of this call.

XII. – RESPONSABILITY

The Compostela Group of Universities shall not be responsible for technical, hardware, software or other problems of any kind, nor for any loss, electronic failure, incorrect, incomplete, inaccurate or delayed communications, caused by the user or by any associated or used equipment or programming, or by any human or other error that may occur during the programme call for entries.

*Note: The rules of this call have been edited in English and Spanish. In case of any discrepancy or misunderstanding in their interpretation, the Spanish version will always take precedence over the English version.

In Santiago de Compostela, on 10 May 2024.