

## Volunteers' Questions and Answers

If you do volunteer work for a qualified organization, the following questions and answers may apply to you. All of the rules explained in this chapter also apply. See, in particular, [Out-of-Pocket Expenses in Giving Services](#).

Question	Answer
<p>I do volunteer work 6 hours a week in the office of a qualified organization. The receptionist is paid \$10 an hour to do the same work I do. Can I deduct \$60 a week for my time?</p> <p>The office is 30 miles from my home. Can I deduct any of my car expenses for these trips?</p>	<p>No, you cannot deduct the value of your time or services.</p> <p>Yes, you can deduct the costs of gas and oil that are directly related to getting to and from the place where you are a volunteer. If you don't want to figure your actual costs, you can deduct 14 cents for each mile.</p>
<p>I volunteer as a Red Cross nurse's aide at a hospital. Can I deduct the cost of uniforms that I must wear?</p>	<p>Yes, you can deduct the cost of buying and cleaning your uniforms if the hospital is a qualified organization, the uniforms are not suitable for everyday use, and you must wear them when volunteering.</p>
<p>I pay a babysitter to watch my children while I do volunteer work for a qualified organization. Can I deduct these costs?</p>	<p>No, you cannot deduct payments for child care expenses as a charitable contribution, even if they are necessary so you can do volunteer work for a qualified organization. (If you have child care expenses so you can work for pay, see <a href="#">chapter 32</a>.)</p>