

Vala's Pumpkin Patch & Apple Orchard

Job Descriptions Overview

Please read through our job descriptions to see what best fits your preferences. We expect every employee in any position at Vala's to be part of the guests' story of their Magical Memories created while visiting the farm, so every position involves some customer service. Note that you may not get your first job choice, depending on availability, so please read all the descriptions and have a few different options you might enjoy. Thank you!

Admissions Jobs

Admissions Cashier: This is the main job at Admissions. You become the first impression guests have of Vala's; therefore, your first priority is customer service. You will be selling Admission tickets or season passes on iPad registers. You must complete a cashier training session, and you are responsible for your money bag on the job. The duties of this position may change depending on location, attendance, staffing, and scheduling; other duties may be assigned by Team Leaders and Management.

Campfire Starter: Fire Starters work outdoors setting up each campfire daily. You must be 18 or older, pass the Gator Training Test, and must be able to lift 50 lbs (hauling wood). Your main priority is safety, lighting all 74 campfires when needed, and making sure campfires are neat and clean, with wood and water provided to each campsite as well as clearing any trash left behind. As a Fire Starter, you may also help our Catering Department by cleaning up catered delivery items and returning them to the Catering Department. The duties of this position may change depending on location, attendance, staffing, and scheduling; other duties may be assigned by Team Leaders and Management.

People Mover: In this position, you will coordinate with Admissions and Campfire Starters to transport guests and their supplies. Your main duties are friendly guest interactions, taking Vala's guests and supplies to and from their campsite, and assisting guests who may need additional support when needed. As a People Mover, you may be one of the first or last employees that a guest sees when they visit Vala's, customer service is key! You must also pass a Gator Training Test, must be able to lift 50 lbs, and must be 18 or older. The duties of this position may change depending on location, attendance, staffing, and scheduling; other duties may be assigned by Team Leaders and Management.

Greeter: Greet and direct Vala's guests at Admissions as they come onto the farm! Must be outgoing and cheerful and able to stand on your feet for periods of time. You will also be using an iPad to check in guests with online tickets or season passes. This position is one of the first employees seen at Vala's, customer service is important as well as knowledge of Admissions processes to guide each guest to the appropriate lane if needed. You may also help with school groups or large groups coming into the farm to guide them through Admissions. The duties of this position may change depending on location, attendance, staffing, and scheduling; other duties may be assigned by Team Leaders and Management.

Ticket Taker: As a Ticket Taker, you take the Admission tickets (raffle size tickets) from Vala's guests as they walk through Admissions. These tickets are given to them by Admission Cashiers or Greeters in exchange for purchasing tickets, holding a season pass, or trading in for one of our Vala's tickets. You will also need to be familiar with the farm, provide maps when available, and greet guests with a friendly smile. You may be sitting or standing at times, and must be dressed appropriately for the weather. The duties of this position may change depending on location, attendance, staffing, and scheduling; other duties may be assigned by Team Leaders and Management.

Retail Jobs

Vala's Pumpkin Patch & Apple Orchard Job Descriptions Overview

Retail Cashier: The primary job in any retail location is cashiering duties while maintaining the appearance of the retail location by arranging/restocking merchandise and keeping displays full. You will be standing much of the time, selling merchandise, and you may be working alone or with a team. You must complete a cashier training session, and you are responsible for your money bag on the job. The duties of this position may change depending on location, attendance, staffing, and scheduling; other duties may be assigned by Team Leaders and Management.

Retail locations include Barnyard Sports, Big Barn Exit, Calamity Jan's (work alone), Glow Shack (work alone), Harvest Barn (+ serving coffee drinks), and the Eerie Emporium.

Attractions Jobs

Attraction Worker: As an Attractions Worker, your primary job is guest safety and positive guest interactions. You must be dressed appropriately for the weather, be able to stand for entire shifts, and may be working alone or with a team. There is on the job training for all Attractions Workers. The duties of this position may change depending on location, attendance, staffing, and scheduling; other duties may be assigned by Team Leaders and Management.

Attraction locations include Apple Cannon Blasters, Barnyard Sports, Barnyard Challenge, Big Slide Ride, Egg Scramble, Jumping Pillows, Maze, Pedal Carts.

Attraction Cashier: Attraction Cashiers will work at an Attraction selling tickets or items for guests to participate in the Attraction. You must complete a cashier training session, and you are responsible for your money bag on the job. You also help to maintain the appearance of your Attraction location. The duties of this position may change depending on location, attendance, staffing, and scheduling; other duties may be assigned by Team Leaders and Management.

Attractions with cashiers include Apple Cannon Blasters, Paintball, and the Train Depot.

Tractor Driver: Tractor drivers must work as a team to coordinate Hayrack Ride rotations out to the pumpkin fields and apple orchard. The first priority is guest safety and positive guest interactions. You must be dressed appropriately for the weather, must be 18 or older, and must be able to lift 50 lbs. Experience necessary. The duties of this position may change depending on location, attendance, staffing, and scheduling; other duties may be assigned by Team Leaders and Management.

Tractor drivers work at the Barnyard Adventure and Hayrack Rides.

Train Engineer: The first priority of the Train Engineer is guest safety and positive guest interactions. You may dress up or wear a Staff Shirt. In this position, you will coordinate guests boarding and exiting the train, guard the railroad crossing, drive the train, and entertain guests. Must be 18 or older. Experience preferred. The duties of this position may change depending on location, attendance, staffing, and scheduling; other duties may be assigned by Team Leaders and Management.

[Limited openings due to returning staff].

Pony Rides and Feed Shack Worker: This is the perfect job for those that love horses and animals! Pony Ride workers coordinate children getting on and off ponies, and Feed Shack workers watch over the petting zoo and sell feed cups. Safety is a priority for both the guests and the animals. You must be dressed appropriately for the weather, be able to lift 50 lbs, and be comfortable around animals. You must complete a cashier training session, and you are responsible for your money bag on the job. The duties of this position may change depending on location, attendance, staffing, and scheduling; other duties may be assigned by Team Leaders and Management. *These positions are hired by Mark Celesky (Animal Manager), who owns all the animals; limited openings.*

Entertainment Jobs

Mascot/Mascot Handler and Strolling Character (weekends only): As a strolling character or mascot, you must love entertaining Vala's guests! Your job will be to walk around the farm, greeting guests, and taking photos with them. Maintain character at all times in front of guests. You are part of their magical experience at the farm. You will be wearing a costume (or Staff Shirt if you're a Handler) and might wear makeup. A Mascot Handler will be assigned to communicate with guests and keep the mascot safe. The duties of this position may change depending on location, attendance, staffing, and scheduling; other duties may be assigned by Team Leaders and Management. *Strolling characters include the Witch, Pumpkin Princess, Farmer Jack, and Zeke the Dragon. [Limited openings due to returning staff].*

Food Location Jobs

Food Prep: Food Prep involves getting food ready for when guests arrive at the farm. The type of food depends on the location. Must wear closed-toed shoes, dress for the weather, be prepared to help serve guests, and help maintain a clean, safe food location. Must be able to stand on your feet for long periods of time. Must know basic food safety information from Vala's Food Safety Overview Packet. The duties of this position may change depending on location, attendance, staffing, and scheduling; other duties may be assigned by Team Leaders and Management.

Cook: Similar to Food Prep, being a Cook involves being prepared for and anticipating feeding hungry guests. Cooks may be assigned to working on the fryers, grills, smokers, ovens, or corn roasters, depending on the food location. Must wear closed-toed shoes, dress for the weather, be prepared to help serve guests, and help maintain a clean, safe food location. Must be able to stand on your feet for long periods of time. Must know basic food safety information from Vala's Food Safety Overview Packet. The duties of this position may change depending on location, attendance, staffing, and scheduling; other duties may be assigned by Team Leaders and Management.

Food Server: You will work closely with Food Preps and Cooks, but your first priority is helping Vala's guests by taking orders and serving food. Must wear closed-toed shoes, dress for the weather, be prepared to help serve guests, and help maintain a clean, safe food location. Must be able to stand on your feet for long periods of time. Must know basic food safety information from Vala's Food Safety Overview Packet. The duties of this position may change depending on location, attendance, staffing, and scheduling; other duties may be assigned by Team Leaders and Management.

Food Cashier: As a cashier in a food location, it is important to become familiar with menu items as you sell food and drinks on iPad registers. You must complete a cashier training session, and you are responsible for your money bag on the job. Though you may assist with other tasks in the food location, you must always remain by your cashier station or take precaution in securing your location prior to moving. Must wear closed-toed shoes, dress for the weather, and help maintain a clean, safe food location. Must be able to stand on your feet for long periods of time. The duties of this position may change depending on location, attendance, staffing, and scheduling; other duties may be assigned by Team Leaders and Management.

Baker/Early Morning Baker: Vala's makes high-quality baked goods, so we like to hire skilled bakers at certain locations. This could include making cookie dough, pie fillings, pie crust, or baking pies, cookies, and bars. Since we like to have these items as fresh as possible, we also have bakers that work early morning shifts. Must be 18 or older, able to lift 50 lbs, wear closed-toed shoes, and help maintain a clean, safe food location. Must know basic food safety information from Vala's Food Safety Overview Packet. Must be able to stand on your feet for periods of time. The duties of this position may change

Vala's Pumpkin Patch & Apple Orchard Job Descriptions Overview

depending on location, attendance, staffing, and scheduling; other duties may be assigned by Team Leaders and Management.

Locations with Baker positions include the Big Barn Bakery, Cookie Coop, Country Bakery, Harvest Barn Donuts, and the Pie Barn.

Food Warehouse: This job is for those that enjoy working behind-the-scenes, delivering food across all locations on the farm. You must pass a Gator Training Test, must be 18 or older, able to lift 50 lbs, wear closed-toed shoes, and help maintain a clean, safe Food Warehouse. Forklift experience is preferred. The duties of this position may change depending on location, attendance, staffing, and scheduling; other duties may be assigned by Team Leaders and Management.

Catering: Vala's Catering includes food preparation and serving food for large parties in the Pavilion or multiple campsites. Food prep includes assembling campfire boxes and catered meals for parties and delivering food to the campsites. You are customer facing and will greet guests as you serve food or set up and take down catered meals. Customer service is a priority. You will work with the office staff on each catered meal as guests put in catering orders online or over the phone with the office staff. You must pass a Gator Training Test, must wear closed-toed shoes and know basic food safety information from Vala's Food Safety Overview Packet. The duties of this position may change depending on location, attendance, staffing, and scheduling; other duties may be assigned by Team Leaders and Management.

Other Jobs on the Farm

Cider Mill Production: The Cider Mill is a newer location on the farm. Employees have a variety of responsibilities from apple picking, pressing apples, bottling, and other tasks involved in the production of sweet and hard cider. Employees must be at least 18 years of age (some positions may be 21 years of age), attend training and be knowledgeable in food safety and production safety standards, wear closed toe shoes, and follow all safety guidelines. The duties of this position may change depending on location, attendance, staffing, and scheduling; other duties may be assigned by Team Leaders and Management.

Cider Garden Bartending: The Cider Garden is new for the 2020 season. Hard cider and sweet cider will be served to our 21 and older guests while they are on the farm. You must be at least 21 years of age to serve alcoholic beverages at Vala's Pumpkin Patch & Apple Orchard. Employees must complete required training, be knowledgeable in responsible service of alcoholic beverages and food safety, and follow all safety guidelines. Employee will be trained in Vala's Safety Policies, Alcohol Service Policies, and Standard Operating Procedures for the Cider Garden. The duties of this position may change depending on location, attendance, staffing, and scheduling; other duties may be assigned by Team Leaders and Management.

Cleaning Crew: One of the most important, behind-the-scenes jobs on the farm is our cleaning crew. The responsibilities include cleaning and restocking guest bathroom facilities across the farm, picking up trash, washing dishes, cleaning floors and washing windows in certain parts of the farm. You must pass a Gator Training Test and must wear closed-toed shoes. The duties of this position may change depending on location, attendance, staffing, and scheduling; other duties may be assigned by Team Leaders and Management.

EMT/Security: EMT/Security employees must be at least 20 years of age or older. He/she should complete EMT training from a state-approved training center, be licensed in the state of Nebraska, and provide proof of certification prior to start date. The candidate must possess CPR certification and be able

Vala's Pumpkin Patch & Apple Orchard Job Descriptions Overview

to lift at least 50 lbs. EMT duties include responding to medic calls and providing basic first aid to guests and employees. Employee will be trained in Vala's Safety Policies and Standard Operating Procedures for Security and EMT employees. Job duties also include looking for lost children, watching for safety issues, and providing security across the farm. The duties of this position may change depending on location, attendance, staffing, and scheduling; other duties may be assigned by Team Leaders and Management.

Parking Lot Attendants: Working in cooperation with the Sheriff's Department, Parking Lot Attendants help to park cars safely and efficiently. Must be 18 or older, and must dress for the weather, wearing a Staff Shirt or sweater, and a safety vest (provided by Vala's) while parking. You must pass a Gator Training Test and must wear closed-toed shoes. Employee will be trained in Vala's Safety Policies and Standard Operating Procedures for Parking Lot Attendants. The duties of this position may change depending on location, attendance, staffing, and scheduling; other duties may be assigned by Team Leaders and Management.