

Job Descriptions Overview

Though your main job at Vala's is creating Magical Memories, please read through our job descriptions to see what best fits your preferences. Note that you may not get your first job choice, depending on availability, so please review a few different options you might enjoy. Thank you!

Admissions Jobs

Admissions Cashier & Greeter: 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 standing much of the time, and selling Admission tickets or season passes on iPad registers. You must complete a cashier training session, and you are responsible for your cashier bag on the job. As a Greeter, you will direct Vala's guests to the appropriate Admissions windows and will use iPads to check in guests with online tickets. Other duties may be assigned by Team Leaders or Admissions Management.

Campfire Starter: Campfire Starters work outdoors, 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.

People Mover: In this position, you will coordinate with Admissions and Campfire Starters. Your main duties are friendly guest interactions, taking Vala's guests and supplies to and from campsites, and assisting guests when needed. Must be able to lift 30 lbs, and must be 18 or older. You will need to pass the Gator Training Test.

Ticket Taker: Take tickets from Vala's guests as they walk through Admissions. Greet guests with a friendly smile and provide directions for them around the farm. You may be sitting or standing at times, and must be dressed appropriately for the weather.

Retail Jobs

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 cashier bag on the job. *Retail locations include Barnyard Sports, Big Barn Exit, Calamity Jan's (work alone), Glow Shack (work alone), Eerie Emporium, U-Pick Apples, Orchard Host, or Flower Field.*

Attractions Jobs

Attractions Team: As an Attractions Team Member your primary job is guest safety and positive guest interactions. You must be dressed appropriately for the weather, and may be working alone or with a team. You will assist guests at the attractions, which may include (but not limited to) helping with adjusting seats of the pedal carts, ensuring each guest has a burlap bag for the slide, or assisting at the zipline. *Attraction locations include Apple Cannon Blasters, Barnyard Sports, Barnyard Challenge, Big Slide Ride, Egg Scramble, Jumping Pillows, Maze, Pedal Carts.*

Attractions Cashier: Attractions Cashiers will work at an Attraction selling tickets or items for guests to participate in the Attraction. Cashier duties include guest services, completing transactions, and maintaining your location. You must complete a cashier training session and you are responsible for your cashier bag on the job. *Attractions with cashiers include Apple Cannon Blasters, Paintball, 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 24 or older, and must be able to lift 50 lbs. Experience necessary. *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. In this position, you will coordinate guests boarding and exiting the train, guard the railroad crossing, operate the train, and entertain guests. Some train engineers choose to dress up in overalls, with the staff shift underneath, and a train engineer hat. You must be 18 or older and complete on the job training for operating the train. Experience is a plus. *[Limited openings due to returning staff].*

Ride Operator: As a ride operator, your first priority is guest safety. You will assist guests in unloading and loading the ride, maintain the ride, and report any concerns or maintenance issues to a member of Management. You must complete training for the ride.

Entertainment Jobs

Actor/Actress: As an actor/actress, you must love entertaining guests by performing live shows! Maintain character at all times in front of guests. You are part of their magical experience. You may be wearing a costume and makeup. *Live shows include the Pumpkin Eating Dragon Show, Pigtucky Derby Pig Races. [Limited openings due to returning staff].*

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.

Strolling characters include the Witch, Pumpkin Princess, Farmer Jack [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. Vala's has over 25 food locations with a variety of options ranging from sandwiches and macaroni and cheese, to tacos and succotash. 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 periods of time. Must know basic food safety information and follow the food safety guidelines.

Cook/Fryer/Griller/Smoker: 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 periods of time. Must know basic food safety information and follow the food safety guidelines.

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 and beverages. 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 periods of time. Must know basic food safety information and follow the food safety guidelines.

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 cashier bag on the job. Though you may assist with other tasks in the food location, you must always remain by your register. 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 periods of time and follow the food safety guidelines.

Baker/Early Morning Baker/Production: 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 and follow the food safety guidelines. Must be able to stand on your feet for periods of time.

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

Kettle Corn Production: The kettle corn production team is responsible for making, bagging, and stocking kettle corn throughout the farm. There are three different locations that produce kettle corn. You will receive training on making kettle corn as well as bagging kettle corn. You will work with your Team Leaders and the Warehouse for delivery of kettle corn throughout the farm. You 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 periods of time. Must know basic food safety information and follow the food safety guidelines. Kettle Corn Production Team Members may also cashier, you may be assigned to take cashier training.

Food Warehouse: This job is for those that enjoy working behind-the-scenes, delivering food across all locations on the farm. 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 a plus. Must know basic food safety information and follow the food safety guidelines in locations and while delivering orders. You must pass a Gator Training Test to operate a vehicle on the farm.

Catering: A job for Vala's Catering includes food preparation and serving food for large parties in the Pavilion or multiple campsites. It may also include assembling campfire boxes for small parties and delivering food to the campsites. Must wear closed-toed shoes, be able to stand on your feet for long periods of time, and have strong guest service skills. Must know basic food safety information and follow the food safety guidelines. As a member of the catering team, you will prepare and deliver food to campfires, pavilions, serve food, and assist the campfire starters with cleaning the campfires of catered events. You must pass a Gator Training Test and be able to lift 50 lbs. Catering team members may also serve alcoholic beverages, you must be at least 19 years of age to serve alcoholic beverages at a catered event, follow all laws and policies, and complete mandatory Alcohol Service Training.

Alcohol Server & Cashier: As an alcohol server and cashier at Vala's, you will greet and serve guests the Vala's Hard Cider. This position is guest centered and requires cashier training. You are responsible for your cashier bag while on the job. You must wear closed-toed shoes, be able to stand on your feet for long periods of time, and have strong guest service skills. You must know basic food safety information and follow the food safety guidelines. As a member of the alcohol service team, you may also assist catering at events where alcohol is being served. You must be at least 19 years of age to serve alcohol at a food location or catering event and at least 21 years of age to serve alcohol at a alcohol service location (Cider House, Cider Silo, Cider Wagon, Cider Mill). You must be able to lift 50 lbs. You must follow all laws and policies, and complete mandatory Alcohol Service Training.

Dishwasher & Dining Room Attendant: This position assists locations with washing dishes, from trays, spoons, bowls, and other tools used in the preparation and service of food. You will also help maintain the cleanliness of the indoor and outdoor locations, wiping tables, and clearing food and trays off of tables. You must wear closed toe shoes, know basic food safety information and follow the food safety guidelines. Any position within the food team may be asked to assist in washing dishes and assisting in the dining areas.

Other Jobs on the Farm

Cleaning Crew: One of the most important, behind-the-scenes jobs on the farm is our cleaning crew. The responsibilities include cleaning guest bathroom facilities across the farm, picking up trash, washing dishes, cleaning floors and washing windows in certain parts of the farm.

Medical Team: As a Medical Team Member, the employee is required to have an up to date certification received through EMT training from a state-approved training center. The candidate must possess CPR certification. You will be trained in Vala's Safety Policies. Job also includes looking for separated parties, watching for safety issues, and providing basic first aid across the farm to guests and employees. Medical Team Members are required to complete paperwork and incident forms for incidents occurring each day.

Security Team: As a Security Team Member, the employee is required to follow all safety policies and have a presence throughout the farm, assisting in any radio calls asking for security, helping to look for any separated parties, assist in parking, and provide information for our guests as needed. Security Team Members are required to complete paperwork and incident forms for incidents occurring each day.

Floater: This position is reserved for those that have worked for Vala's for a long time in various cashiering positions. A floater will give breaks to any cashier position on the farm, including Admissions, retail locations, attractions, and food locations. You must be comfortable bouncing around to different locations and jumping in at busy times, mostly using iPad registers. Floaters will also help throughout food locations for serving, prep, and in attractions at various locations.

Parking Lot Team: Working in cooperation with the Sheriff's Department, Parking Lot employees help to park cars safely and efficiently. Must be 18 or older, and must dress for the weather, wearing a Staff Shirt or sweater. We provide a safety vest while parking. You must be comfortable on your feet for long periods of time and have strong guest service skills.