

Volunteer Opportunities

Please read carefully before committing to a particular role.

Special Olympics
Pennsylvania



<i>Volunteer Position</i>	<i>Description</i>	<i>Commitment</i>	<i>Requirements</i>
Coach or Assistant Coach (Class A)	Organizes practices & selects training sites and times. Sport knowledgeable and Special Olympics knowledgeable. Receives training designed specifically for the sport. Coaches must be at least 18 years of age and Assistant Coaches at least 16 years old but will not provide chaperoning for travel or overnight events.	Participation is seasonal for each sport. The commitment, depending on the sport, ranges from 8-10 weeks, 2 hours per week plus competition day(s) is minimum but many programs train more often.	Completed SOPA Volunteer Application Class A Background Checks through SOPA. Training: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • General Orientation • Protective Behaviors • Concussion Training • Sports Specific SOPA Coaches Training
Unified Partner (Class A)	Train and compete on a team with Special Olympics athletes as a teammate/Partner!	Participation is seasonal for each sport. The commitment, depending on the sport, ranges from 8-10 weeks, 2 hours per week plus competition day(s) is minimum but many programs train more often.	Completed SOPA Volunteer Application Class A Background Checks through SOPA. Training: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • General Orientation • Protective Behaviors
Program Management (Class A)	This Management Team (MT) administers Special Olympics in their geographic boundaries. MT's are composed 12 volunteer roles to include: Manager, Assistant Manager, Coordinators for Training, Competition, Public Relations, Outreach, and Fund Raising to name a few.	As a Management Team (MT) member, you will work year-round with fellow MT members to develop and execute plans for successful programming. Most programs meet on a monthly basis with activities scheduled throughout the year.	Completed SOPA Volunteer Application Class A Background Checks through SOPA. Training: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • General Orientation • Protective Behaviors • SOPA Management Team Position specific training

<p>Games Organizing Committee (Class A)</p>	<p>Months of preparation goes into coordinating our Special Olympics Games. Games are held in all seasons both on a local, state or sectional level.</p>	<p>Depending on the size of the Games, GOC preparation may take 3 to 8 months planning. Most GOC's meet monthly – more frequently as Games near, with activities scheduled throughout the planning time.</p>	<p>Completed SOPA <u>Volunteer Application Class A Background Checks</u> through SOPA. <u>Training:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • General Orientation • Protective Behaviors • GOC position specific training (onsite)
<p>Healthy Athletes (Class A)</p>	<p>Help conduct free health screenings at events. Screenings include teeth, hearing, feet, vision, and general wellness.</p>	<p>3-8 hour shifts during competition or standalone event days.</p>	<p>Completed SOPA <u>Volunteer Application Class A Background Checks</u> through SOPA. <u>Training:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • General Orientation • Protective Behaviors
<p>Games Volunteer (Class B)</p>	<p>Games Volunteer roles are many – from officiating or refereeing games/competitions to pre-Games set-up or serving as a timer, to name a few. A more in-depth list of Games specific needs is available on our website.</p>	<p>3 to 8 hour shifts on competition days. Time and shifts are position and volunteer recruitment dependant.</p>	<p>Completed SOPA <u>Volunteer Application Training:</u> Games position specific training (onsite)</p>
<p>Fund Raising Volunteer (non-Management Team) (Class B)</p>	<p>Both SOPA's state and local programs host many fund raising events throughout the year to support our athlete's activities! You can take a Polar Plunge, help with auctions, or take part in run, to name just a few.</p>	<p>Most fund raising events are one day long and can be anywhere from 2 to 12 hours, activity dependant.</p>	<p>Complete <u>event specific application</u></p>
<p>Professional Services (Class B)</p>	<p>Provide pro bono services (e.g. technical support, computer work, graphic design, etc.).</p>	<p>Project dependant. May take a few hours or more depending on the role and project. Program leadership or staff will be able to provide details.</p>	<p>Completed SOPA <u>Volunteer Application</u> Expertise in area of need.</p>