



Become a Volunteer

Volunteers are the backbone of the Special Olympics movement, serving as coaches, trainers, officials, organizers, fundraisers, and supporters—playing a crucial role in the movement.



Types of Volunteers

Class A Volunteers:

Have regular physical contact with athletes, hold positions of authority or supervision, are entrusted with athletes' trust, and handle substantial amounts of cash or assets.

- Coaches
- Unified partners
- Trip coordinators or heads of delegations
- ALP and global messenger mentors
- Chaperones
- Non-hired drivers of athletes
- Area/local council members

Class B Volunteers:

Volunteers who only have limited contact with athletes and are accompanied by coaches and chaperones.

- Single day or single event or fundraiser volunteers
- Healthy Athlete volunteer
- Volunteers who drive vehicles on behalf of Special Olympics not transporting athletes

Volunteer Opportunities

Sport Volunteering

Sports volunteers include coaches, assistant coaches, Unified partners who play alongside Special Olympics athletes, as well as sports officials and competition directors who help ensure the best possible play.

Event Volunteering

Our event volunteers are the backbone of our large competitions and fundraising events and often go on to become coaches and long-time volunteers.

Area Leadership Volunteering

Leadership volunteers are needed to serve on Area councils and make Special Olympics happen from behind the scenes.

Volunteer Requirements

To volunteer, complete the online registration process. Contact Us at volunteers@sovaloudoun.org with any questions!

Age Requirements:

- Minimum age for Class A volunteers (except Unified partners) is 14
- Unified partners must be at least 8 years old
- Head coaches, trip coordinators, heads of delegations, drivers and chaperones must be at least 18 years old
- Class B volunteers aged 8–13 require a parent, guardian or chaperone

Time commitments:

From several hours at an event to 2 hours a week for an 8-10 week season to yearlong, depending on your interests.

Scan the Code



For more information

