

Special Olympics Maryland
Requirements for Participation

Athlete

Special Olympics forms completed by parent/guardian and the medical portion completed and signed by a physician

Volunteer

- *Volunteer Application
- *Protective Behavior training
(minors under age 18 must also complete "Student/Minor Volunteer References")

Unified Partner/Sport volunteer

- *Volunteer Application
- *Protective Behavior training
(minors under age 18 must also complete "Student/Minor Volunteer References")
- *Concussion training

Coach

- *Volunteer Application
- *Protective Behavior training
- *Concussion training
- **Coaching Special Olympics Athlete (CSOA) training
- **Sport Specific training

Coach UNIFIED Teams

- *Volunteer Application
- *Protective Behavior training
- *Concussion training
- **Coaching unified sports online course via NFHS or in person training conducted by a certified trainer
- **Sport Specific training

* Update every 3 years

** Both CSOA and sport specific are needed for initial certification. One or the other must be renewed every 3 years.

Notes:

- Medical applications and volunteer applications go to either Nancy Schmidt (newtns@yahoo.com) or Pat Neary (patricia.neary@comcast.net) depending on the sport

- Protective Behavior online training completion certificate goes directly to SOMD. Link to the training is:
<https://resources.specialolympics.org/protective-behaviors>

Protective Behaviors for Minors:

Watch SOMD's Protective Behaviors Training (<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=50AdHix2kM>) and take our quiz (<https://forms.gle/D81ZPyp9KUo6An566>). This Training and Quiz were made by SOMD.

- Recommended link for concussion training is: www.cdc.gov/headsup/youthsports/training. The course is free. **Create a PDF certificate on completion and email to coaches@somd.org for credit.**
- Coaching Special Olympics Athlete training can be taken as an online self-paced course through American Sport Education Program (ASEP), www.asep.com. Cost is \$16.95 which must be paid up front. **Upon completion submit the receipt from ASEP and the email verifying successful completion to coaches@somd.org for reimbursement and course credit.**
- Coaching unified sports online course is available at <https://nfhslearn.com/courses/61127/coaching-unified-sports>. **This is a free course and you must submit successful completion to coaches@somd.org for credit.**
- **Be sure to keep records/copies of all courses taken!! We can NOT STRESS THIS ENOUGH!!**