

Play Unified. Live Unified. Teach Unified.

What is Unified Champion Schools?

Unified Champion Schools (UCS) is an inclusive strategy woven into the school's culture. It works to remove social and systemic barriers, create lasting relationships and memories, and support meaningful competition and involvement for all students. UCS is built on the foundation of three key pillars;

1. **Inclusive Sport and Health** promotes social engagement and development by integrating students with and without intellectual disabilities in sports.
2. **Youth Leadership:** This program empowers all students to have a voice in their school community, fostering an environment of acceptance, respect, and human dignity.
3. **Whole-School Engagement:** This involves the entire school in meaningful activities that enhance community participation and ensure that all students contribute to and benefit from the school environment.

What We Offer

Our inclusive strategy helps student-athletes, with and without intellectual disabilities (ID) and challenges, ages 2-21 develop physical literacy and social skills, learn about teamwork and inclusion, and be a greater part of their school community. Our program offerings include:

Elementary Programs

- **Active Start, FUNdamentals, and Youth Multisport Resources** focus on progressive learning and education of foundational movement, sport and teamwork skills.
- **Sports Festivals** engage young athletes through fun, ability-appropriate programming in a non-competitive environment while promoting physical literacy, sports skills, and healthy activity.
- **Intermediate Programming** is event-based programs that feature skill development and gameplay opportunities for Grades 6-8.
- **Virtual Programming** offers an accessible platform for all Special Olympics schools to engage in sport, education, and health & wellness.



What We Offer

Secondary Programming

- **School Qualifiers** provide quality competition opportunities to student-athletes in five sports: basketball, soccer, bocce, floorball, and virtual track & field for athletes of any skill level.
- **School Championships:** Successful teams from qualifiers advance to the Provincial School Championships. This three-day overnight event brings over 1,000 coaches, athletes, and volunteers together to compete.
- **Virtual Programming** offers an accessible platform for all Special Olympics schools to engage in sport, education, and health & wellness.

University College Programming

- **Unified Intramural Sports** come to college or university campuses throughout the province. Special Olympics athletes are paired with Unified partners from local universities/colleges to compete as teammates.
- **The UCS Strategy:** Universities have the opportunity to host events and workshops and incorporate inclusive UCS practices at their schools.

Ways to be Involved

1. Participate

- Participating in any of our sporting events, programs, youth leadership workshops, or school engagement initiatives is simple.
- Anyone who can benefit from our programming is welcome to participate.

2. Host

- Schools throughout the province help host our elementary, secondary and university events in partnership with Special Olympics Ontario.
- Hosting events in high schools boosts school spirit, fosters inclusion, and creates valuable leadership and awareness opportunities.

3. Engage Your School

- All programs and events need volunteers; students now have the opportunity to support, lead or start Special Olympics initiatives, including sports events, fundraisers, youth leadership workshops, awareness campaigns, and more.

Click [here](#) or scan below to get involved!



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