



2022 - 2023

School Programs Booklet



**Special
Olympics**
Ontario



School Programs



PROGRAMS & EVENTS

Special Olympics Ontario (SOO) school programs and events are available for students aged 2-25. Our programs help student-athletes, with and without intellectual disabilities (ID), develop physical literacy, learn about teamwork and inclusion, and be a part of their school's sports teams. The programs we offer span all levels of education from elementary schools, intermediate schools, secondary schools, as well as universities and colleges.

Elementary Schools



This school year, SOO Sports Festivals will offer both Active Start and FUNdamentals programs. Athletes in the Active Start Program will participate in activities designed to develop fundamental movement skills that build a foundation of physical literacy. FUNdamentals athletes will work through activities that introduce several different sports and skills. The goal of the Sports Festival is to provide an entry point to a pathway for athletes to progress towards participation in structured and/or competitive programs in the future.

Secondary Schools

Secondary School Qualifiers provide quality competition opportunities to student athletes aged 13-21 in five sports: basketball, soccer, bocce, floor hockey, and virtual track & field. Teams are divisioned prior to each event to ensure competition is fair and balanced. Registration for each qualifying event is \$5 per student. All competitions offer both a Traditional Division, where all athletes have an intellectual disability, as well as a Unified Division where teams are comprised of athletes with AND without an intellectual disability.



University / College

SOO University and College Programs bring Unified intramural sports to college and university campuses across the province. Unified campus programs provide competitive sport opportunities for athletes who have graduated from secondary programs (aged 18-25). SO Athletes will be matched with Unified Partners from local universities and colleges to compete side by side as teammates as a part of the institutions' intramural programs. For information about your local University or College program, please contact ryanc@specialolympicsontario.com.



EDUCATOR RESOURCES

School Programs Hosting Grant

This school year, Special Olympics Ontario is offering a \$300.00 grant to your school program if you choose to take on hosting an event. Special Olympics staff will support your event centrally with registration, scheduling and officials, communications and equipment. Should you be interested in hosting your own school event, please contact schools@specialolympicsontario.com.

In order to qualify for the School Programs Hosting Grant, events must be open to both catholic and public school boards and host a minimum of two additional schools.

Athlete Leadership Seminars

The Athlete Leadership Program (ALPs) is a free one-day workshop with the purpose of educating secondary students on the tools and steps needed to undertake meaningful leadership roles within Special Olympics and beyond.



Active Start (Ages 2-6)

The Active Start guide introduces physical literacy and fundamental movement skills (kicking, running, throwing, balance, etc.) through structured and unstructured play. Your youngest/lower functioning students will benefit from play-based activities that teach basic skills.

FUNDamentals (Ages 7-12)

The FUNdamentals program guide provides a platform for building sport specific skills in a non-competitive environment. It incorporates learning skills without introducing the dynamics of how the sport works in a competitive environment. The focus is still on fun and inclusion.

Multi-Sport (Ages 10-21)

The Youth Multi-Sport guide breaks down each sport into 9 weeks of lesson plans working from an introduction to each sport to a complete game setting. This guide acts as a great lead-in to our Intermediate and Secondary school programs for educators looking to prepare students for competition.

UNIFIED CHAMPION SCHOOLS PROGRAM SUMMARY

The Program

The Unified Champions School Program is a recognition program that aims to promote a more inclusive and Unified community within elementary, secondary, and post-secondary academic institutions in Ontario.

Milestones

Schools will have a set of criteria/milestones that they will aim to complete. These milestones are grouped into 4 different streams that serve as the focus of development in this program: sport and recreation, social, advocacy and awareness, and sustainability. Within these 4 categories, there are specific objectives to fulfill. Points are accrued as schools complete milestones, contributing to the Unified Champion score.

How to Become a Champion

Depending on the unified champion score, the school will receive different levels of recognition from Special Olympics Ontario. These ranking levels each contain different incentives/prizes for completion.

[Click HERE to Learn More](#)

Recognition Levels

Unified Champion

Bronze Unified
Champion

Silver Unified
Champion

Gold Unified
Champion



Please contact us for more information!



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