



Volunteer Requirements

On Behalf of our Athletes, Thank You for Thinking of
Special Olympics for your Volunteer Time!

Please submit all forms in a single message as one or more PDF files with original signatures. Send your PDF(s) at least two weeks before the first practice to allow time for processing. Incomplete or partial submissions cannot be processed and will not be saved.*

Six Easy Steps to Become a Volunteer

Once Every Three Years

- Complete the [Volunteer Application](#).
- Complete the [Communicable Disease Waiver \(CDW\)](#).
- Take the [Protective Behavior Training](#). Save the confirmation page as a PDF for submission.
- Send the completed Volunteer Application, Communicable Disease Waiver, and the Protective Behaviors Confirmation Page to volinfo@somdmontgomery.org, preferably with all documents in a single PDF.

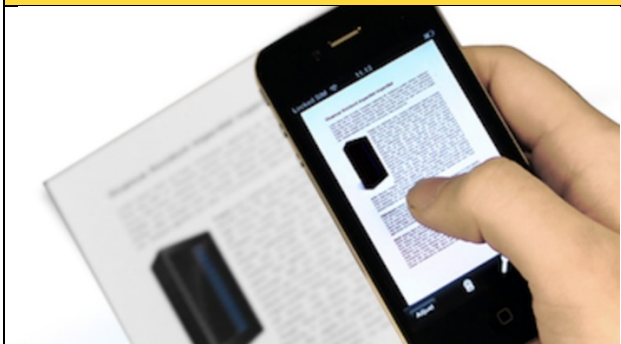
One Time Only

- Send proof of COVID-19 vaccination to vaxstat@somdmontgomery.org.

Near Each Season's Start

- Signup for a sport at [Sports Season Signup for Volunteers](#). Show up for the 1st practice.

*How to use your smartphone as a scanner to create PDFs from paper documents



You can use your Apple or Android smartphone to create PDFs from multi-page documents easily. [Adobe Scan](#) and Microsoft Lens ([android](#), [IOS](#)) are two free apps for both IOS and Android that work as handheld scanners. You can also review this article from LifeWire on [How to Scan Documents With Your Android or iOS Phone](#)

In accordance with the Special Olympics Volunteer Screening Policy and with the interest of the health and safety of all participants in mind, we ask your cooperation by fully completing the requested information. **ALL information is required and confidential.**

Please Print All Information Legibly. This is a two-page application

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Complete **LAST** Name

Complete **FIRST** Name, **NO** nick name

Complete **MIDDLE** Name, **NO** Middle Initial

Gender <input type="checkbox"/> Female <input type="checkbox"/> Male	Date of Birth: ____/____/____ Month Day Year	
**A social security number is OPTIONAL to perform a background check. Criminal background checks are required of all <u>adult</u> Special Olympics Maryland, volunteers, Unified Partners, and employees.		

Home Street Address

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City

State

County

Zip Code

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Email address

Primary Phone: Please check box - ☐ Home ☐ Cell

Employer/School: _____ Occupation/Position: _____

Employer/School Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip Code: _____

Emergency Contact Information (ALL INFO REQUESTED IS REQUIRED):

Emergency Contact Name: _____

Relationship to you _____ Primary Phone Number: _____

ADULT volunteers/partners, please list (1) adult, non-family reference: please print all information
Individuals 17 years old or younger must complete the separate Student/Minor Reference Form

Reference: *Complete Name: _____

Home Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

*Primary Phone Number: (____) _____

FOR LICENSED MEDICAL PROFESSIONALS ONLY. Please List your Medical Credential _____

Please provide a copy of your current medical license or certificate with this application

Please answer the following questions:

- | | | |
|---|------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| 1. Do you use illegal drugs? | <input type="checkbox"/> YES | <input type="checkbox"/> NO |
| 2. Have you ever been convicted of, or granted probation before judgment for: | | |
| a) A criminal offense OR | <input type="checkbox"/> YES | <input type="checkbox"/> NO |
| b) Driving while impaired, intoxicated, or under the influence of alcohol or drugs? | <input type="checkbox"/> YES | <input type="checkbox"/> NO |
| 3. Have you ever been charged (as an adult or juvenile) with neglect, abuse or assault? | <input type="checkbox"/> YES | <input type="checkbox"/> NO |
| 4. Has your driver's license ever been suspended or revoked in any state or other jurisdiction? | <input type="checkbox"/> YES | <input type="checkbox"/> NO |
| 5. Within the past five (5) years, have you been at fault for two (2) or more traffic accidents, or had your automobile insurance cancelled for safety reasons? | <input type="checkbox"/> YES | <input type="checkbox"/> NO |

Please read each statement before signing: I do hereby understand and confirm that:

- I have completed the General Orientation/Protective Behaviors session for volunteers and have been educated on the Special Olympics Maryland Volunteer Code of Conduct and SOMD's general procedures for protecting athletes from abuse. I agree to abide by these guidelines for the benefit and safety of all participants in the Special Olympics Program;
- I give my permission to Special Olympics Maryland to verify the information I have given and to conduct a criminal background screening and/or driving record screening;
- I authorize others to make available to any duly authorized representative of Special Olympics Maryland any information relevant to my volunteer application or status, and I waive any right I may have with regard to the release of this information to Special Olympics Maryland;
- I agree to indemnify and hold harmless Special Olympics Maryland, Special Olympics Inc., and any person to whom this request is presented and their agents and employees, from and against all claims, damages, losses and expenses, including reasonable attorneys' fees arising out of this request;
- in the course of volunteering for Special Olympics Maryland, I may be dealing with confidential information, and I agree to keep that information in the strictest confidence;
- the relationship between Special Olympics Maryland and volunteers is an "at will" arrangement, and it may be terminated at any time without cause by either the volunteer or Special Olympics Maryland;
- I grant Special Olympics Maryland permission to use my likeness, voice and words in television, radio, film or in any form to promote activities of Special Olympics Maryland;
- I am responsible for informing Special Olympics Maryland of ALL changes regarding information contained in this application, and that I may be asked to provide updated information at any time.
- In consideration of participating in Special Olympics Maryland activities, including Unified Sports, I represent that I understand the nature of the event and that I (and/or my minor child) am (are/is) qualified, in good health and in proper physical condition to participate in Unified Sports events. I fully understand the event may involve risks of serious bodily injury which may be caused by my own actions or inactions, by the actions of others participating in the event, or by conditions in which the event takes place. I fully accept and assume all such risks and all responsibility for losses, costs, and/or damages I (and/or my minor child) may incur as a result of my (and/or my minor child's) participation. I acknowledge that at any time that if I (we) feel that the event conditions are unsafe; I (and/or my minor child) will discontinue participation immediately.
- If during participation in Special Olympics Maryland activities I should need emergency medical treatment and I (and/or my minor child) am (are/is) not able to give consent for or make my own arrangements for that treatment because of my injuries, I authorize Special Olympics Maryland to take whatever measures are necessary to protect my health and well-being including, if necessary, hospitalization.
- I (and/or my minor child) release, indemnify, covenant to sue and hold harmless Special Olympics Maryland, Special Olympics Inc., its administrators, directors, agents, officers, volunteers, employees and other Unified Sports participants and sponsors, advertisers, and if applicable, any owners and lessors of premises on which the activity takes place from all liability, any losses, claims (other than that of the medical accident benefit) demands, costs, or damages that I (or my minor child) may incur as a result of participation in Special Olympics Maryland activities, including Unified Sports events, and further agree that if, despite this "Release and Waiver of Liability, Assumption of Risk and Indemnity Agreement" I or anyone on my behalf, makes a claim against any of the Releasees, I will indemnify, save and hold harmless each of the Releasees from any litigation expenses, attorney fees, loss, liability, damage or cost which may incur as a result of such claim.

SOMD Housing Policy Information

The health and safety of all Special Olympics Maryland participants is of paramount importance to Special Olympics Maryland. Participants should feel that every Special Olympics Maryland event is a safe and positive experience and should not be fearful of other participants, coaches or volunteers. Athletes will be matched for housing based on size, level of maturity, ability and age. Each member of the delegation shall be assigned his/her own bed. Athletes and volunteers may not share a room with an athlete or volunteer of the opposite sex *. The chaperone/athlete ratio of at least one properly registered chaperone to every four athletes must be maintained during overnight events. All chaperones must be screened in accordance with the Special Olympics Volunteer Screening Policy.*See complete Special Olympics Maryland Housing Policy for allowed exceptions. The complete Special Olympics Maryland Housing Policy can be found at www.somd.org.

Concussion Information

A concussion is a brain injury and all brain injuries are serious. They are caused by a bump, blow, or jolt to the head, or by a blow to another part of the body with the force transmitted to the head. They can range from mild to severe and can disrupt the way the brain normally works. Even though most concussions are mild, **all concussions are potentially serious and may result in complications including prolonged brain damage and death if not recognized and managed properly.** In other words, even a "ding" or a bump on the head can be serious. You can't see a concussion and most sports concussions occur without loss of consciousness. Signs and symptoms of concussion may show up right after the injury or can take hours or days to fully appear. If you/your athlete report any symptoms of concussion, or if you notice the symptoms or signs of concussion yourself, seek medical attention right away. Participants with the signs and symptoms of concussion should be removed from play immediately. Continuing to play with the signs and symptoms of a concussion leaves the participant especially vulnerable to greater injury. There is an increased risk of significant damage from a concussion for a period of time after that concussion occurs, particularly if the participant suffers another concussion before completely recovering from the first one. This can lead to prolonged recovery, or even to severe brain swelling (second impact syndrome) with devastating and even fatal consequences. It is well known that athletes will often under report symptoms of injuries, and concussions are no different. As a result, education of administrators, coaches, parents and athletes is the key for athlete safety. Any participant even suspected of suffering a concussion should be removed from the game or practice immediately. No participant may return to activity after an apparent head injury or concussion, regardless of how mild it seems or how quickly symptoms clear, without medical clearance. Close observation of the participant should continue for several hours. Special Olympics Maryland, Inc. requires the consistent and uniform implementation of well-established return to play concussion guidelines that have been recommended for several years including an participant who is suspected of sustaining a concussion or head injury in a practice or game shall be removed from competition at that time and may not return to play until the participant is evaluated by a licensed health care provider trained in the evaluation and management of concussion and has received written clearance to return to play from that health care provider. For current and up-to-date information on concussions you can go to: <http://www.cdc.gov/Concussion>

I affirm that I have read and understand this Volunteer Application and that the information given is true and complete. I have read the "Release and Waiver of Liability, Assumption of Risk, and Indemnity Agreement" and fully understand and agree to it. I also understand that in the event false information is provided, I may be terminated from my volunteer position.

Applicant Signature: _____ Date: _____

IF APPLICANT IS A MINOR: **Individuals 17 years old or younger must also complete the separate Student/Minor Reference Form**

Parent/Guardian Name: _____ Relationship to Applicant: ☐ Parent ☐ Guardian ☐ Other _____

Signature of Parent/Guardian: _____ Primary Phone #: _____

Signature of Special Olympics Maryland Staff or Authorized Representative _____ Date: _____

Photo ID Provided: ☐ Yes ☐ NO



Student/Minor Volunteer References

In accordance with the Special Olympics, Inc. Volunteer Screening Policy, student volunteers or applicants who are 17 years of age and younger are required to provide 2 non-family references (one of whom is from the applicant's school, church, civic group, etc.). Please provide this completed reference form when submitting your Volunteer Application.

Name of Student Applicant: _____

Please Print Your Complete Full Name (Full First, Full Middle and Full Last Name)

Please provide two personal/professional **non-family** references using this form. Each reference must be provided by an individual who is: *not your legal guardian *not related to you, *and at least 18 years old.

Reference #1 - By signing below, I confirm the following:

1. I know _____ ("Applicant") in either a personal or professional capacity;

Name of Volunteer Applicant

2. I am at least 18 years of age and am not a legal guardian or relative of Applicant;

3. I am not aware of any reason that Applicant should not be permitted to volunteer with Special Olympics Maryland, and

4. I do not possess any information that would cause me to believe Applicant would pose any undue risk to Special Olympics athletes and volunteers.

Signed: _____ Printed Name: _____

Home Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip Code: _____

Daytime Phone Number: _____

Relationship to applicant: _____ Date: _____

School/Organization Name: _____

Reference #2 - By signing below, I confirm the following:

1. I know _____ ("Applicant") in either a personal or professional capacity;

Name of Volunteer Applicant

2. I am at least 18 years of age and am not a legal guardian or relative of Applicant;

3. I am not aware of any reason that Applicant should not be permitted to volunteer with Special Olympics Maryland, and

4. I do not possess any information that would cause me to believe Applicant would pose any undue risk to Special Olympics athletes and volunteers.

Signed: _____ Printed Name: _____

Home Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip Code: _____

Daytime Phone Number: _____

Relationship to applicant: _____ Date: _____

School/Organization Name: _____

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Created by the Joseph P. Kennedy, Jr. Foundation Authorized and Accredited by Special Olympics, Inc. for the Benefit of Persons with Intellectual Disabilities

Please mail completed forms within 10 days of the orientation to:

Volunteer Management Coordinator

c/o SOMD

3701 Commerce Drive, Suite 103

Baltimore, MD 21227

