



Special Olympics
Northern California

Thank you for your interest in volunteering for Special Olympics Northern California. Our athletes are clearly *why* we exist, but our volunteers are *how* we exist. We hope that you will decide to join us in fulfilling our mission of providing outstanding Special Olympics sports training and competition opportunities to children and adults with developmental disabilities throughout Northern California.

All prospective Special Olympics volunteers must fill out our Volunteer Application and provide photo identification (driver's license or state identification card) when registering as a new volunteer. Signing the volunteer application authorizes a criminal background check, which is required for any adult volunteer who has direct contact with our athletes (including adult Unified Partners). The background check is limited to criminal history only and, in certain cases, motor vehicle operation records. Special Olympics Northern California contracts with a national investigative consumer reporting agency to conduct the background checks, using a screening program available only to qualified nonprofits. All prospective adult volunteers who have direct contact with athletes (including Unified Partners) must also complete the Protective Behaviors Training Program available at: <http://www.specialolympics.org/protectivebehaviors>.

Our objective is to provide a safe environment for Special Olympics athletes, volunteers, staff and spectators. The background check program attempts to identify people who may pose a danger or threat to Special Olympics athletes and other participants. Not everyone is well suited to the Special Olympics environment. Although Special Olympics wants to include as many volunteers as possible in its activities, the organization will continue to do its best to protect the well being of all participants.

Thank you again for your interest in Special Olympics. We hope you will have an excellent experience volunteering with the organization and serving our athletes.

Yours truly,

Richard E. Collett, Jr.
President & CEO