

WHY SHOULD I GET INVOLVED AS A PARENT/FAMILY?

When families join the Special Olympics team, they join a global family – a support network that reaches far beyond the playing field. When brothers, sisters, parents, grandparents and others get involved with Special Olympics, they join millions of family members who not only support their loved ones, but also find a support structure for themselves.



WHO IS ELIGIBLE TO PARTICIPATE?

Athletes must be at least eight years old and be identified by an agency or professional as having one of the following conditions:

- intellectual disabilities
- cognitive delays as measured by formal assessment
- significant learning or vocational problems due to cognitive delay that require specially designed instruction.



**CONTACT US FOR
MORE INFORMATION!**
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Special Olympics
Utah



I N S P I R E
G R E A T N E S S .

FAMILY
INFORMATION

**WHAT IS
SPECIAL OLYMPICS UTAH?**
Special Olympics Utah is a nonprofit organization providing year-round training and athletic competition in 20 Olympic-type sports for individuals with intellectual disabilities



**TOP 10 REASONS TO GET
YOUR CHILD INVOLVED IN
SPECIAL OLYMPICS!**

1. Improve health and fitness
2. Grow mentally and socially
3. Develop a positive self-image
4. Enhance motor skills
5. Gain greater self-confidence
6. Exhibit courage and enthusiasm
7. Enjoy the rewards of friendship
8. Find acceptance and support
9. Discover new abilities and talents
10. Network with other families



“Every family is called upon to make sacrifices in the name of love, but families of Special Olympics athletes have done much, much more. Each day, they demand civil rights for their children that others take for granted: in education, employment and health. Families, we salute and commend you.”

*Eunice Kennedy Shriver,
Special Olympics Founder*



**CAN INDIVIDUALS WITH PROFOUND
DISABILITIES PARTICIPATE?**

Yes, through Special Olympics Motor Activities Training Program (MATP), developed by physical educators, physical therapists and recreation therapists. MATP emphasizes training and participation rather than competition.



WHEN SHOULD I GET STARTED?

Registration depends on the four major sport seasons for State Competitions:

January: Bowling and volleyball for the Spring Sports Classic

March: Track & field, soccer, cycling, softball and equestrian for Summer Games

July: Basketball, aquatics, power lifting, bocce, gymnastics and golf for the Fall Sports Classic

November: Nordic & alpine skiing, snowboarding and snowshoeing for Winter Games

