

Camp Shriver Overview & Grant Requirements

Special Olympics



What is Camp Shriver?

Camp Shriver is an inclusive Unified Sports® camp modeled after the original camp at the home of Special Olympics Founder Eunice Kennedy Shriver as a precursor to Special Olympics. These camps are designed to provide a Unified Sports experience for young people with and without intellectual disabilities (ID) to learn new sports skills, seek physical fitness, and offer a social inclusion center of excellence focused on the development of lasting positive friendships while providing all participants to be 'champions of change' through leadership and education opportunities.

Purpose

To afford opportunities for social inclusion in a fun, healthy, active environment for developing programs in Unified Sports® incorporating healthy initiatives, leadership opportunities, and creating sustainable community partners.

Affiliation

Any program or third-party hosting a Camp Shriver must be partnered with an Accredited Special Olympics program and follow Special Olympics guidelines.

Campers

Targeted between ages 12-25, aim for equal number of campers with and without ID at around the same age range. However, Camp Shriver should never be comprised solely of individuals with disabilities. Numbers of campers per camp may vary, but there it is recommended there be a 4:1 ratio of Campers:Counselors/Volunteers.

Duration

Held during the summer months, Camp Shriver is typically a day program consisting of a number of days within a timeframe that will afford an effective camp experience. Generally, programs are one week long with a minimum of 4-6 programmable hours during the day. *Allowable modifications must be approved in advance.*

Location/Tuition

Held at any community site with enough resources to host sports training; tuition is free to attend.

Counselors & Volunteers

Preferred Youth Activation with counselors that are slightly older than campers, through college age; must attend a training prior to the camp; Counselors may also be Unified Sports® coaches.

Funding Opportunities

Potential Grant funding is available to Accredited Programs that apply and meet criteria. Local business, community partners and other organizations should also be considered for additional expenses and developing sustainable partnerships.

Media

A social media strategy (Facebook, Twitter, Blogs, etc.) should be activated along with invitations to engage media partners and drive further awareness.

Expectation

Implementation of Camp Shriver must involve a Unified Sports® experience for young people with and without ID to learn new sports skills, seek physical fitness, and have fun together while striving to achieve their full potential with opportunities in leadership development, health education and community engagement.



In order to be eligible for Camp Shriver grant funding, Camp Shriver must be implemented as a Unified Sports program with one of the following focus areas:

- launching Camp Shriver for the first time,
- initiating a new Unified Sports model within an existing Camp Shriver,
- or increasing participation and impact of pre-existing Unified Sports programming in Camp Shriver.

Potential Grant funding (ranges from \$2,000-\$11,500) may be used to support Camp Shriver if:

- the above criteria are met,
- camp is outlined in the application and shows strong ties to Unified Sports goals, and
- all funding and reporting guidelines are followed.

Grant Funding Priority would be placed on Programs that:

- do not currently conduct Unified Sports,
- apply from an emerging market, whether a developing country or an inner city program in a developed country,
- consider using Special Olympics Youth Leadership activation, or an organization with youth participation, to develop, manage and direct the camp,
- focus the Camp on developing sports skills in Football, Athletics and Basketball,
- host a minimum of a 1-week session reaching 80 campers with 20 counselors (ensuring a 4:1 ratio),
- engage at least 2 community partners (sports, civic club, university, sponsor) that will support Camp Shriver,
- identify athletes, partners and coaches that are between the ages of 12-25 to participate,
- invite and engage media partners that drive further awareness,
- activate a social media strategy (Facebook, Twitter, Blogs, etc.), and
- use the Games Management System to manage the camp's data.

Programs will report on the following:

- A written narrative describing the progress of the grant. This will include a description of any key events that have taken place as well as important successes and challenges the Program faced.
- A list of any local, national, or regional partnerships that have been formed.
- Updates on the target metrics located in part 9 of the grant application.
- A review and recommendations of the Camp Shriver Toolkit.
- A summary financial report of funds expended.
- At least three brief stories providing feedback on the impact of participating in a Unified Sports program or event. Stories should be obtained from a counselor, an athlete, and a partner.
- A minimum of 10 photos showing Unified Sports activities (practices, events, trainings). Some photos (a minimum of 3) should demonstrate the use of the Unified Sports logo.