If your Program is just starting or re-energizing its Athlete Leadership activities, you may find the following helpful in guiding your efforts.

**Step 1: Familiarize staff and volunteers with athlete leadership**

Identify who will be responsible for managing your Athlete Leadership activities.

Resources are available to help with education and awareness:

* ***This Is Athlete Leadership*** is a one-hour awareness orientation regarding Athlete Leadership … helping staff, athletes, volunteers and families understand what Athlete Leadership can do for athletes and what an asset it is for the Program.
* ***Beyond the Vision*** is a video produced by athletes that will motivate staff, Board members, local program volunteers and athletes to get involved.

**Step 2: Offer leadership training for athletes**

Start with ***Introduction to Athlete Leadership***. This foundational course should be offered first to every athlete who wants to become an Athlete Leader as it will assist in focusing their efforts and selecting additional courses that match their passion, personality and skill sets.

The North America Athlete Leadership Committee has developed materials for several other core ALPs courses which may be completed after the introductory course:

* Global Messenger Public Speaking
* Governance I ( In Development)
* PowerPoint
* Email, Internet & Search Engines
* Athletes as Coaches
* Athletes as Officials

**Step 3: Conduct an Athlete Input Council**

Give athletes regular opportunities to provide feedback and input. It can be as simple as providing an opportunity for athletes to gather at your existing events and asking them what they think about specific topics!

**Where Do I Get Help?**

For assistance in obtaining any of the resource materials mentioned go to the Special Olympics Inc. website and look up Athlete Leadership.