



FOUNDING COMMITTEE APPLICATION

Founding Committee Recognition: A group of six or more individuals may apply and obtain authorization from Special Olympics for a specified period of time to organize and apply for accreditation as a Special Olympics Program for a geographic area (for example, a country).

The Founding Committee Members listed below pledge to cooperate with Special Olympics, Inc. to organize a Special Olympics Program that will provide quality sports training and competition opportunities for athletes with intellectual disabilities in accordance with the Special Olympics Official General Rules; and we further pledge to apply for Special Olympics accreditation within one year for the following country or geographic area:

Name of Country or Geographic Area: _____

Founding Committee Members (list the name and occupation of at least six members):

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____
5. _____
6. _____
7. _____
8. _____

Draft or final Governing Documents (for example, Articles of Incorporation, Constitution, or Bylaws) must be submitted to Special Olympics, Inc. with this application. Model bylaws are available upon request.

SIGNATURE OF PERSON RESPONSIBLE FOR COORDINATING THE FOUNDING COMMITTEE

Signature: _____ Date: _____

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____ Email: _____

FOUNDING COMMITTEE APPLICATION INSTRUCTIONS

To start a new Special Olympics Program in a nation or other territory that is not within an Accredited Program's territory, a founding group of at least six persons, using the Founding Committee Application, may apply to Special Olympics, Inc. ("SOI") through the appropriate SOI regional office for recognition as a Founding Committee for the specified geographic area. Draft or final governing documents (for example, articles of incorporation, constitution, or bylaws) must be submitted to SOI with the application. SOI can provide model bylaws for the Founding Committee's use and customization.

The SOI regional office and Accreditation Counsel will review the application, verify that it satisfies applicable criteria and forward it to SOI's Chief of Regional Growth. SOI, acting through the Chief of Regional Growth, will recognize the Founding Committee for a period of one year or an additional period as agreed upon, during which the Founding Committee will be expected to organize and apply for full accreditation as a Special Olympics Program.

SOI recognition of a Founding Committee includes a license to use the Special Olympics name and logo within its designated territory for the limited purposes of organizing a Special Olympics Program and raising funds solely to pay expenses for Special Olympics activities. In addition, Programs with Founding Committee status may apply to send a small delegation (for example, 4 athletes, 1 coach, 1 delegate) to the Special Olympics World Games.

SOI's regional Organizational Development staff will provide program development assistance to the Founding Committee to help it meet the accreditation requirements within its one-year recognition period. Once a Founding Committee can meet the accreditation requirements, it should complete the online accreditation application in accordance with the Accreditation Guide. If SOI's regional office and Accreditation Counsel verify that the Founding Committee meets the accreditation requirements, SOI will issue a letter and certificate of accreditation to the newly accredited Program.