



**MISSION:**

To provide year-round sports training and athletic competition in a variety of Olympic-type sports for children and adults with an intellectual disability, giving them continuing opportunities to develop physical fitness, demonstrate courage, experience joy and participate in the sharing of gifts, skills and friendship with their families, other Special Olympics athletes and the community.

**HISTORY:**

Founded in 1972

**PARTICIPANTS (per the 2023 census):**

Registered Athletes and Unified Partners:	7,259
Coaches:	450
Competitions:	532
Volunteers:	3,441

**Support:**

Recipient of government, corporate and individual funding

**INTERNATIONAL EVENTS:**

- 2023 Special Olympics World Games, Berlin, Germany
- 2019 Special Olympics World Games, Abu Dhabi, UAE
- 2017 Special Olympics World Winter Games, Graz, Austria
- 2015 Special Olympics World Games, Los Angeles, USA
- 2013 Special Olympics World Winter Games, PyeongChang, South Korea
- 2011 Special Olympics World Games, Athens, Greece

**19 OFFICIAL SPORTS:**

Alpine Skiing	Athletics	Basketball	Bocce
Bowling	Cross Country Skiing	Equestrian	Flag Football
Floor Hockey	Football (Soccer)	Golf	Gymnastics, Artistic
Powerlifting	Roller Skating	Snowshoeing	Softball
Swimming	Tennis	Volleyball	

**OTHER DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMS:**

Athlete Leadership, Healthy Athletes, Healthy Habits, Young Athletes Program, Special Olympics Unified Sports®, Special Olympics Champion School®, and Law Enforcement Torch Run (LETR)

**EXECUTIVE STAFF:**

**Ms. Sherie Thomas**, Board Chair  
**Ms. Carolyn Chamberlin**, President and CEO

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**SPECIAL OLYMPICS PROGRAM**

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