



**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 1970

**PARTICIPANTS (per the 2017 census):**

Registered Athletes and Unified Partners: 26,588  
 Coaches: 1,517  
 Competitions: 268

**SUPPORT:**

Recipient of government, corporate and individual funding

**INTERNATIONAL EVENTS:**

- 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

**23 OFFICIAL SPORTS:**

Alpine Skiing	Aquatics (Swimming)	Athletics	Basketball
Bocce	Bowling	Cross Country Skiing	Cycling
Equestrian	Figure Skating	Flag Football	Floor Hockey
Football(Soccer)	Golf	Gymnastics (Artistic)	Powerlifting
Speed Skating	Snowboarding	Snowshoeing	Softball
Tennis	Triathlon	Volleyball	

**OTHER DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMS:**

Athlete Leadership, Healthy Athletes, Healthy Communities, Young Athletes, Special Olympics Unified Sports®, and Law Enforcement Torch Run (LETR)

**EXECUTIVE STAFF:**

**Ms. Heather B. Andersen**, President and CEO  
**Ms. Maria Fischer**, Board of Directors

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**SPECIAL OLYMPICS PROGRAM**

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