



## OVERVIEW

**Special Olympics is a global movement that unleashes the human spirit through the transformative power and joy of sport, every day around the world.**

- Nearly **4 million athletes and Unified Sports partners** participate in Special Olympics. More than 3 million participants are people with intellectual disabilities and over 600,000 are Unified partners without intellectual disabilities who compete on the same teams.
- There are **227 accredited Special Olympics Programs in 177 countries and territories** operating over 20,000 local clubs. Find Special Olympics near you: [specialolympics.org/programs](https://specialolympics.org/programs)
- Over **700,000 volunteers** make Special Olympics possible. More than 330,000 of those volunteers are coaches, of which **46% are female**.
- Over **18,000 Unified Schools** have been established around the world, and nearly **100,000 youth leaders** have been trained.
- There were more than **46,000 Special Olympics sports competitions in 2022 – that’s 126 per day, or 5.5 per hour!** Approximately 16,000 of those competitions were Unified, where people with and without intellectual disabilities competed on the same teams.
- We offer **30+ Olympic-style sports**. Athletics continues to be the most popular Special Olympics sport globally, followed by football (soccer), basketball, and bocce.
- Special Olympics conducted **42,000 Healthy Athletes screenings in 2022**, with more than two million screenings since Healthy Athletes began in 1997. In 2022, we trained **38,000 healthcare professionals** for a total of 300,000 since 2012.

Special Olympics offers programming in:

- **Sports.** Offering high-quality training and competition in an inclusive culture that stresses athletic excellence, rewards determination, emphasizes health and celebrates personal achievement.
- **Education.** Equipping young people and adult influencers with tools to create sports, classroom and community actions that produce friendships and acceptance, driving positive attitude and behavioral change.
- **Health.** Ensuring ongoing access to quality, community-based healthcare services, highlighted by free health screenings at Special Olympics competitions.
- **Leadership.** Helping people without disabilities go from unconscious bias to conscious inclusion, changing their attitudes and behaviors to create meaningful inclusion in their organizations, families and communities.

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