



As part of its focus on enhancing local programming in our Region, SONA provides a standard resource for its Programs to accredit Local Programs.

The resource provides suggested questions and collection points for accrediting Local Programs, to provide a more consistent and comprehensive approach to ensuring quality at the grassroots level.

***To be clear, the SONA Local Program Accreditation Resource is not mandatory for Programs, nor is it intended to replace any existing efforts within your Program.***

The approach is twofold: 1. For Programs with an accreditation process in place, to offer guidance that can enhance and complement what already exists; and 2. For Programs without a formal process, to provide a turnkey framework that can be used as-is or with edits that meet their needs.

There is no cost to Programs to utilize this resource, and no software licenses/purchases are needed.

### What is unique about this resource?

Similar to other SONA products such as SONA Onboard, this resource can be customized to fit your Program's needs, and can be used to complement your Program's existing content:

- The resource is web-based to allow use and access from anywhere and allows your staff to monitor Local Program data in real time.
- In collaboration with all participating Programs, consistent updates will be made to ensure the approach meets Programs' needs and continues to drive Local Program quality.

### How can your Program begin using this resource?

To learn more and discuss how SONA can support your Local Program objectives through this resource, or in combination with any other SONA products or services, contact Jeremie Ballinger, SONA Organizational Development ([jballinger@specialolympics.org](mailto:jballinger@specialolympics.org)).