

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

Below is a broad description of the activities in which the majority of volunteers participate. This will give you a basic overview of the responsibilities associated with the different assignments and general understanding of the time commitment required. Remember, the specifics of the actual assignment are certain to vary according to the individual program requirements within each county. Contact you local county coordinator for more information and to *GET INVOLVED*.

OPPORTUNITIES/JOBS

Sports Training – Work directly with athletes to improve their skills in specific Special Olympics sports.

Sports Management – Plan, develop, implement and/or monitor sports programs, activities, events and/or competitions.

Administration – Membership on councils and committees to plan, coordinate and/or monitor activities to promote the Special Olympics mission.

Public Information & Promotion – Prepare and/or convey information about Special Olympics to various groups through any of several ways including newsletters, publicity and speaking engagements.

Fund Raising – Plan and/or implement activities to raise financial and in-kind support through presentations, organizing and/or participating in special events.

Community Liaison – Serve as a communication and information link between Special Olympics and groups of your interest (school, civic, business, religious, ethnic, cultural) to promote participation of both athletes and volunteers.

Transportation – Provide or arrange transportation for athletes and volunteers to Special Olympics training, competitions and activities.

Sports Competition – Perform short-term tasks associated with conducting major events involving a variety of activities and large number of athletes & guests: officiate sporting events, escort athletes, provide security, assist with meal distribution, equipment set-up, general hospitality.

Office Support – Tasks associated with supporting administrative and program functions: computer, typing, office coverage, mailing etc.

Specific Individual Interest, Skill, Talent – Matching an individual's specific interest with a specific organization need/desire: computer programming, entertainment, workshop leader, proposal/grant writing, coaches training, etc.

APPROXIMATE COMMITMENT

Seasonal, dependent on sport. Flexible hours. Minimum of 2 hours per week for 8 weeks prior to competition.

Ranges from approx. 2-3 months for specific sports or events to one year for overall management of program.

Minimum year commitment involving regularly scheduled meetings as well as assignments associated with position.

Flexible hours ranging from very short and intense (speaking engagements) to several months depending on specific activity (e.g. develop a promotional brochure).

3-4 hours at a one-time, single event to a minimum of one year as a committee member.

Flexible hours over a negotiated period of time.

Usually 4-6 hours a week for a minimum of 8 weeks. Transportation to games may require over night stays.

Usually 4-8 hours at the actual event with 3-4 hour orientation prior to activity.

General 4-6 scheduled hours per week.

Flexible and negotiated.