

PARTICIPATION IN SPECIAL OLYMPICS

Eligible individuals can register for Special Olympics by completing an *Application for Participation in Special Olympics* and the *Official Special Olympics Release Form* and then submitting them to the appropriate local Special Olympics program:



In LOMPOC
125 West Walnut Avenue
Lompoc, CA 93436

In SANTA MARIA
615 South McClelland Street
Santa Maria, CA 93454



DIRECTIONS FOR COMPLETION

SECTION A – ATHLETE HEALTH INFORMATION

Section A requests personal information and medical information about an athlete's health. All athletes must complete *Section A* at least once every three years. *Section A* is to be completed by the athlete (if at least 18 years of age) when possible or completed by the minor athletes' parent or legal guardian.

SECTION B – MEDICAL CERTIFICATION

The initial physical examination and completion of *Section B* is only required once (please see IMPORTANT EXCEPTIONS) when the athlete first registers to participate in the Special Olympics program. A licensed examiner, physician, or chiropractor must perform the physical examination of the athlete. (A PHYSICIAN OR CHIROPRACTOR IS ACCEPTABLE PER SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA SPECIAL OLYMPICS.)

IMPORTANT EXCEPTIONS

If the athletes' answer was "YES" to any of the items numbered 1 –5 in *Section A*, a complete physical examination is required every three years. If "NEW PROBLEM" is checked for any of the items numbered 6 – 12, a physical examination is required prior to registration. Furthermore, if the athlete's health changes significantly after the initial examination in ways that are not noted on the athlete health information sheet, a licensed examiner should review the athlete's condition again.

OFFICIAL SPECIAL OLYMPICS RELEASE FORM

An adult athlete (at least 18 years of age at the time of application) must complete and sign the *Release To Be Completed By Adult Athlete (If No Parent/Guardian)* section. This section must be reviewed and explained to the adult athlete by another adult. The person reviewing the release section must print his or her name and indicate their relationship to the athlete, thereby confirming that they have reviewed the information with the athlete.

A minor athlete (under the age of 18 years at the time of application) must have the *Release To Be Completed By Parent or Guardian* section completed and signed by their parent or legal guardian.

If an athlete, parent or guardian DOES NOT grant permission for the use of the athlete's likeness, name, voice, etcetera for the purposes stated, they may opt to draw a single line through the statement and initial the section.

If an athlete, parent or guardian has religious obligations to approving the provision authorizing Special Olympics to arrange emergency medical treatment for the athlete if a medical emergency arises during participation in Special Olympics, the athlete, parent or guardian may cross out the provision and initial it on the application form, and submit the application along with *the Special Provisions Regarding Medical Treatment Form*. This form is available from your local Special Olympics program or Southern California Special Olympics.

ATHLETE REGISTRATION FLOW CHART



STEP 1 – Complete an *Application for Participation in Special Olympics*

- If you answered “NO” to any of the questions 1 – 5, a physical examination is required only once.
- If you answered “YES” to any of the questions 1 – 5, a physical examination is required every three years.
- If you answered “NEW PROBLEM” to any of the questions 6 – 12, a physical examination is required prior to registration in Special Olympics.
- If your answers to questions 1 – 5 changes from “NO” to “YES” at any time, a physical examination will be required every three years.

STEP 2 – Complete an *Official Special Olympics Release Form*

- If you have any religious objections or any provisions, please go to Step 2a.
- If you are an athlete with Down Syndrome, please go to Step 2b.

STEP 2a – Complete the Special Olympics Special Provisions Regarding Medical Treatment in addition to the Application for Participation in Special Olympics and the Official Special Olympics Release Form, crossing out and initialing any objectionable provisions.

STEP 2b – Complete the *Medical Release for Down Syndrome Athletes Participating in Restricted Sports as Part of Southern California Special Olympics* form by the physician and parent or legal guardian.

If an athlete is diagnosed as having this condition, an athlete may participate in any restricted sport by also completing the *Special Release for Athletes with Atlanto Axial Instability* form.

MEDICAL RELEASE FOR ATHLETES WITH DOWN SYNDROME PARTICIPATING IN RESTRICTED SPORTS AS A PART OF SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA SPECIAL OLYMPICS

This form must be completed and signed by the examining physician for any individual with Down Syndrome who is expected to participate in one of the following sport activities:

Alpine Skiing

Butterfly Stroke (Swimming)

Diving

Diving Start (Swimming)

Equestrian

Gymnastics

High Jump

Pentathlon

Football (Soccer)

The examination must include x-ray views of the full extension and flexion of the neck. This examination is only required once. A copy of the form must be kept on file with the local Special Olympics program and must accompany the *Application for Participation in Special Olympics* and the *Official Special Olympics Release Form* as required for all trainings and competitions.