

Welcome to Special Olympics PA – Area M

Volunteers are the backbone of Special Olympics PA – Area M. We could not exist without the dedication of hundreds of volunteers. The time, energy and enthusiasm of volunteers fuel our movement and make our athletes' dreams a reality. There is a place for everyone in our organization.

What level of volunteer opportunity are you interested in?

Volunteer Classifications: Special Olympics Pennsylvania classifies its volunteers by the level of participation.

- **Class A** – Volunteers who are or may be in immediate contact with athletes such as coaches, Unified partners, chaperones, drivers, and overnight hosts, as well as volunteers with administrative (management team members, etc.) and fiscal authority.
- **Class B** – Volunteers with casual or limited contact with athletes such as sub-committee members, officials, event management team members, etc.
- **One Day Volunteers** - Volunteers that assist at one-day events

How to become a volunteer:

Complete the online [Volunteer Registration Form](https://vsys.specialolympicspa.org/pages/app:newvolapp) if you are interested in becoming a Class A or Class B Volunteer. <https://vsys.specialolympicspa.org/pages/app:newvolapp>

Class A volunteers will have the following background checks done before starting their volunteer experience. These clearances will be a part of your online application process.

- PA State Police Criminal History (PA requirement)
- PA Child Abuse Clearance (PA requirement)
- National Record Check (Special Olympics International requirement)
- Additionally, a fingerprint based federal criminal history (FBI) submitted through the PA State Police or its authorized agent is required if the volunteer has lived outside the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania in the last 10 years. As a volunteer, you will be required to pay for this check. The cost is approximately \$28.

Class A volunteers must complete the following trainings after their clearances are complete and before starting their volunteer experience

- **General Orientation** – This is a general introduction to Special Olympics and **any new volunteer** or coach should take this training prior to working with athletes.
- **Protective Behaviors** – This course provides information on preventing emotional, physical and sexual abuse.
- **Concussion Training** – As a sports organization we recognize the importance of minimizing the risks of concussion or other serious brain injuries
- A copy of all confirmations/certificates should be sent to areamsports@specialolympicspa.org

For information on One Day Volunteer Opportunities please contact Area M Volunteer Coordinator, Louise Bell, areamvolunteer@msn.com

Questions about becoming a volunteer please contact the Area M office at 717-732-6756 or email:

Kerry Wevodau, Area M Program Director, at kwevodau@specialolympicspa.org

Potential Volunteer Intake Form

Potential Volunteer's Name: _____

Address: _____

E-Mail Address: _____

Phone Numbers: *(please check preferred number)*

Home _____

Cell _____

Volunteer interested in

Class A opportunities

Class B opportunities

One Day opportunities

Coach completing Intake form: _____

Sport: _____

Date: _____

Please return this form to Kerry or Shannon within 7 days of completion. Thank you!