

Global Messenger

BEGINNER

TRAINING

WHEN

**Saturday-Sunday,
October 1-2, 2016**

WHERE

**Special Olympics Illinois
Headquarters**

605 E. Willow St., Normal IL

Athlete Leaders... Messengers for change.

Explore Opportunities

Special Olympics Athlete Leadership Programs allow athletes to explore opportunities for greater participation in the Special Olympics movement beyond sports training and competition: as coaches, officials, team captains, spokespeople and Board and committee members.

These leadership roles give athletes of **all ages**, a voice in shaping Special Olympics, and a chance to spread the word about the remarkable transformations Special Olympics can bring about in individuals and families. Athlete Leadership Programs also provide a way for athletes to showcase talents and interests that may have gone unnoticed.

Be a Part of the Vision

Initiatives like these are not token positions; they are an integral part of the Special Olympics movement. Athlete leaders help Special Olympics leaders stay in touch with athletes' interests, so that we can ensure that our programs remain vital and attractive to the people we are trying to serve. At the same time, Athlete Leadership Programs offer opportunities for athletes to pursue specialized training that can help them develop in new areas of their lives.

Through involvement with Athlete Leadership Programs, athletes can learn how to speak persuasively; interview with the media; mentor and speak up for other athletes; discuss their opinions on policy and governance; and research and prepare for fundraising events, to name just a few.



**Special
Olympics**
Illinois

HIGHLIGHTS OF THE PROGRAM

- Great opportunity for athletes seeking new opportunities within Special Olympics.
- Global Messenger program provides athletes with new ways to utilize experiences and lessons they've learned and share with others.
- Provides an opportunity for greater participation in Special Olympics beyond sports training and competition.
- Specialized training is provided that can help athletes develop skills as leaders.

REQUIREMENTS

- Must be an active SO Illinois athlete with a valid Medical App on file.
- Must have a speech coach/mentor (parent, sibling, coach, family friend...) willing to attend trainings and support you.
- Must be positive, enthusiastic and passionate about Special Olympics.
- Must be willing to attend additional trainings to stay up to date on SO Illinois initiatives.
- Interested athletes should complete the attached Interest Form and submit to Karen Milligan.

For more information, please visit

www.soill.org or contact

Karen Milligan.

Special Olympics Illinois

605 E. Willow Street

Normal, IL 61761

Phone: 309-888-2013

Fax: 309-888-2577

E-mail: kmilligan@soill.org

REGISTER BY
September 9, 2016

ATHLETE LEADERSHIP PROGRAM

Interest Form



1. Athlete Contact information:

Name _____ Area _____ Agency _____
Address _____
City _____ State _____ Zip _____
Home Phone _____ Email _____

2. Athlete parents/guardian contact information:

Name _____ Relationship _____
Address _____
City _____ State _____ Zip _____
Home Phone _____ Work Phone _____
Cell Phone _____ Email _____

3. Age of athlete: _____

4. Is athlete actively involved in Special Olympics and has a valid Medical Application on file? Yes No

5. Can athlete travel independently? Yes No

6. Has the athlete ever had experience in:
Leading the Oath Yes No
Speaking at committee or group meetings Yes No
Being a spokesperson for Special Olympics (i.e. giving a formal presentation at conferences, being interviewed by the media, etc.) Yes No

7. Other information you'd like to share about athlete's interests, hobbies...

8. What areas of the Athlete Leadership Program are you interested in: (check all that interest you)
Global Messenger – sharing your story; speaking as a Special Olympics ambassador
Input Council –
Technology – social media, PowerPoint, photo/video sharing/editing
Leadership – identifying/developing leadership skills; instructor/clinician
Governance – skill development for working on committees/boards etc.
Coaching
Fundraising
Health/Fitness – develop skills and knowledge to share with other athletes related to healthy lifestyle
Other:

9. Speech Coach Information: Same info as Parent

Name _____ Relationship _____
Address _____
City _____ State _____ Zip _____
Home Phone _____ Work Phone _____
Cell Phone _____ Email _____

Send or fax completed Interest Forms to:
Special Olympics Illinois
Attn: Karen Milligan
605 E. Willow Rd.
Normal, IL 61761
Fax: 309.888.2570

Office Use:
Area Director Approval:
Athlete MedApp:
Speech Coach Class A: