

ATHLETE & YOUTH LEADERSHIP Terminology



ATHLETE LEADERSHIP

The Athlete Leadership program empowers athletes to develop leadership skills and utilize their voices and abilities to undertake leadership roles. Through training workshops and immersive experiences, athletes are also building their confidence and are able to influence change and contribute as valued and respected members of our communities.

ATHLETE LEADERSHIP COUNCIL

ALC is a structure created for athletes to: Report to other athletes and Program leaders on what is happening in their regions; Voice their opinions about important issues related to SO; Develop, plan and implement projects; Serve as a liaison in different areas of the organization providing support and expertise; Gain leadership, training and experience.

ATHLETE LEADER **Successful completion of both modules*

- Introduction to Athlete Leadership - see description on back
- Understanding Leadership - see description on back

CERTIFIED ATHLETE LEADER

**Successful completion of all advanced modules*

ADVANCED MODULES:

- Understanding Emotions
- Engaging with Others
- Managing Time
- Leading Discussions
- Unified Leadership

SPECIAL OLYMPICS ROLES

These modules are designed to provide athletes with an overview of what to expect from each of the leadership roles and learn knowledge and skills associated with that role.

- Global Messenger - spokesperson for the organization
- Health Messenger - health and wellness leader, educator, advocate and role model
- *Event Coordinator*
- *Sport Leader*
- *Athlete Representative*

PERSONAL & PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

These modules focus on life skills needed to succeed in any leadership role in Special Olympics, the community or the workplace.

CORE MODULES

- Personal Skills
- Professional Skills
- Engaging the Community
- Storytelling

UNIFIED LEADERSHIP

Unified Leadership teaches leaders without disabilities to value and learn from people with ID, and make changes that create environments where people with ID get opportunities to have leadership jobs and roles.

SARGENT SHRIVER INTERNATIONAL GLOBAL MESSENGER (SSIGM)

Ten Athlete Leaders from around the world, serving a 4-year term, that are taking on new leadership challenges to raise awareness and educate communities around the world about Special Olympics and how they have been empowered through their experiences.

YOUTH LEADERSHIP

Youth Leadership is about students with and without intellectual disabilities learning leadership skills and working leadership roles in and outside of school.

YOUTH ACTIVATION COMMITTEE (YAC)

The SOILL YAC is comprised of 20 Unified Pairs (10 from middle schools, 10 from high schools) who lead Unified Programming and Initiatives within their schools, communities, and across the state. These pairs are selected through an application process each year.

BOOTCAMP

WHO: SOILL YAC and ELN members

WHEN: Friday and Saturday at end of August

WHERE: Typically held at the headquarters in Normal.

WHAT: A weekend of leadership and social justice training for our YAC to prepare them for the work they will do as leaders in their schools for the upcoming school year.

YAC SUMMIT

WHO: Typically 3 Unified Pairs from any middle and high school across the state. Sessions are run by the YAC in 2 different tracks - Middle School and High School. Our ELN runs a Teacher Track

WHEN: Typically held the 2nd weekend in November each year or around Veteran's Day

WHERE: Location changes each year, but is announced in August.

WHAT: The Youth Activation Summit runs Saturday-Sunday with students learning leadership skills, experiencing inclusion and unification, and socializing with other kids from around the stat. This weekend of learning is a great opportunity for any middle or high school student to learn and hone their leadership skills.

EDUCATION LEADERS NETWORK (ELN)

The ELN is a collection of educators from across the state selected to assist the Unified Champion Schools team in identifying and implementing new initiatives. The ELN is selected based on teacher involvement with the UCS Strategy, location in the state, and experience with the Unified movement. There are currently 7 educators on the ELN including Admin, SO Coordinators, and Special Education Teachers of a variety of levels.

INCLUSIVE LEADERSHIP

Inclusive Leadership is about students with and without disabilities working and leading together.

COLLEGE INCLUSION COMMITTEE

This is a College Level Youth Activation Committee that works to engage colleges and students across the state in the Unified Generation and movement.

SONA YOUTH AMBASSADORS

Unified pairs of high school and college students who represent the Unified Generation on a national level. These pairs work to promote inclusion, anti-bullying, and unification within their states and across the nation.