



YOUNG PROFESSIONALS BOARD

FAQS

1. **Is there a fee for members?** Yes, we ask members to donate \$25 as a yearly membership fee. This donation directly benefits the athletes of Special Olympics Illinois (SOILL). The fee can be paid via cash, check, or card. If you pay via check, make the check out to Special Olympics Illinois. Cash and check can be mailed to Special Olympics Illinois Attn: Emily Merkle 500 Waters Edge Ste. 100 Lombard, IL 60148. If you would like to pay via card, you can do so by going to the right side of the YPB page and completing the form with your contact information. After clicking "Submit", it will take you to a page to pay via PayPal or debit/credit card. Questions about your payment, reach out to Emily at emerkle@soill.org.
- YP
2. **Is there an application for new members?** Yes, there is an application for new members. You can find it on the YPB website ([YPB Website](#)). We ask that you complete this form and email it to Alia at aabdulsamad@soill.org. After we receive your application, we will reach out to you and set up a time to have an informal interview to get to know you better.
3. **Are there expectations as a YPB member?** Yes, we do ask that our members meet 5 expectations during their time as a YPB member. The 5 expectations are listed below.
 - ✓ Each member must pay an annual membership fee of \$25.
 - ✓ Each member is expected to join a committee (Events, Volunteer, or Member Recruitment/Development).
 - ✓ Members are encouraged to attend every monthly general meeting but will be required to at least attend 3 general meetings throughout the year.
 - ✓ Members are encouraged to attend every committee meeting. Committee meetings will be scheduled when necessary and are dependent on committee responsibilities at that time. We ask that our members make 50% of their committee meetings for the year.
 - ✓ Members are required to volunteer at one SOILL athletic event and one SOILL special event throughout the year.
4. **Will I be removed if I don't meet all 5 expectations within the year?** No, you will not be removed from the board. However, you will meet with one of our staff members to discuss how we can help you reach all 5 expectations moving forward.
5. **What is the time commitment required for joining YPB?** There is not a specific time requirement for being a part of YPB. However, we do ask that you attend general meetings regularly and participate in events and/or volunteer opportunities when they present themselves. We understand that you have other responsibilities outside of this, but hope that you are able to fulfill the member expectations.
6. **How often does YPB meet and where?** YPB will host a general monthly meeting beginning January 7, 2021. The meetings will fall on the first Thursday of every month at 6:30 p.m. We will be hosting the meetings via ZOOM until we feel it is safe to host in-person events. When we return to in-person meetings, they will be held at SOILL's Chicago office or other office buildings around the city. Members will be notified of the location well in advance of the meeting.
7. **What type of fundraising events is YPB involved in throughout the year?** Our major annual events we host include a themed-pub crawl in the spring and a beer and wine tasting event

called Thanks-for-Giving in the fall. We also support the Chicago Ducky Derby which is hosted by Special Olympics Illinois. Our role in supporting the event is creating a sales team and hosting happy hour events to support the Ducky Derby sales. Our group volunteers at many of the events held by SOILL including the Ducky Derby, the Annual Gala, Polar Plunge, and many more!

8. **How can I join the Executive Board?** If you are interested in holding an Executive position, you can indicate so on your membership application. If you are already a member and want to advance your involvement in YPB, please talk with one of the SOILL staff members.
9. **Am I required to be on a committee? What committees are there to join?** Yes, each member will be assigned to a committee. The committee options are events, volunteer, and member development. You can pick the committee you are interested in when completing the membership application.
10. **How long am I expected to be a member of the YPB?** The YPB membership is a two- year term. If you want/need to end your membership prior to that, please reach out to SOILL staff member, Alia.