

Dear Parent,

Your child has no Pennsylvania Special Olympic record on file or their physical is expired/about to expire. As in regular life, there have been many changes within the Special Olympic community. One that will affect you now is the introduction of a new registration procedure which includes a Sports Physical Exam. New athletes and current athletes with expired/expiring physicals are now required to use the new **Application for Participation**. We realize that this is a very long and detailed form. It can be completed online or in a printed format. The online format is the **very much preferred** method however, if you have no access to a computer, the paper format is acceptable. Information on how to complete this process can be found below as well as on the Team Northampton website www.ncspecialolympicspa.org/athlete-registration . We look forward to working with your athlete!

Overview

- All new athletes and athletes needing updated physicals must complete an athlete registration form prior to participating in a Special Olympics event.
- Athlete registrations are kept on file in a statewide database as well as with Team Northampton. If registration information is not entered or incomplete, the athlete is not approved for participation.
- Plan for your family medical professional to complete the Sports Physical Exam. The required form will be emailed to you once the online registration form has been completed.
- More specific instructions are provided below under **Helpful Information/Instructions** for the online format as well as the printed version for those unable to complete the online version.

If at any time you need assistance with this, please contact Linda Lechner at [llechnercso@gmail.com](mailto:llechncso@gmail.com) or use the link listed at the bottom of this page.

Link to online Application for Participation:

<https://medform.specialolympics.org/instructions?form=0000015f-49d8-d70c-a77f-69dd60ef0000>

- Step 1: Complete the online application. This must be completed in one sitting so be sure to gather required information (listed below in Helpful Information) before beginning the process.
- Step 2: Visit a Medical Professional. The required form will be automatically emailed to you after the application has been completed.
- Step 3: Download the forms. Do not hesitate to ask for assistance if needed!

Helpful Information/Instructions:

- Application/medicals are good for 3 years
- The forms should be filled out by the person (or people) who can give the most complete and accurate account of the athlete's medical history. That might include the athlete themselves, the parent or guardian, or a caregiver. If the athlete cannot sign legal documents, then the person completing the form should be able to legally sign on behalf of the athlete.
- Prior to completing, it would be helpful to gather the following information: immunization records, medication/vitamin/dietary supplement lists, allergies and dietary restrictions, past surgeries and infections, family medical conditions
- Page 2- general demographic and contact information. State Special Olympic Program = PA , Local Area/Delegation = Northampton County
- Page 3- Release form and important details about participation
- Page 4- **Optional** Likeness release form for Sponsors
- Page 6 or 7: EMERGENCY MEDICAL CARE REFUSAL FORM, **required ONLY if on the Athlete Release Form athlete selected "I have a religious or other objection to receiving medical treatment" and/or "I do not consent to a blood transition."**
- Pages 8-16: SELF-IDENTIFICATION STATEMENTS AND POLICY ACKNOWLEDGMENT, reviews Special Olympics Pennsylvania policies. We understand that many of our school based athletes are not involved in competitions requiring travel and/or overnight stays. Special Olympics requires that all involved read and acknowledge receiving information on these policies.
- Pages 17-18: Athlete health history
- Page 19: SPORTS PHYSICAL EXAM FORM: to be completed by an authorized medical personnel to include MDs, DOs, CRNPs, FNPs, and PAs. This must be taken to a medical professional for completion. No private physical forms will be accepted.
- Page 20: MEDICAL REFERRAL FORM **Required ONLY if an athlete requires further examination** due to a concerning health issue before clearance can be determined.

Link to PDF Application for Participation:

https://drive.google.com/file/d/1C0TzuvCmm2Mk2p9B_TWYY4mtx_bhf12L/view?usp=sharing

All information must be carefully printed in a legible manner.

- Your child's teacher will provide a paper copy upon request.
- Completed paper application forms should be handed in to Amanda Sechrist, a current coach or teacher. If none of these options work for you, special arrangements will be made. Just let us know!