

Special Olympics



July 2021 New requirements & forms from Special Olympics Illinois (SOILL)

Special Olympics Illinois is changing its **required forms**.

This applies to ALL ATHLETES.

For more of the background/benefits for this change, please visit the NISRA website, www.nisra.org.

New Consent Form

- The Consent Form contains information that previously existed on the Medical Application (App) form.
- The Consent form separates athlete/parent/guardian consent from the health information.
- This form will only need to be submitted **one time throughout an athlete's lifetime**, barring any change in guardianship.

All athletes must submit the Consent Form prior to participation in order to be eligible.

New Medical Form

- This form will be valid for three years.
- Like the previous Med App, Special Olympics Illinois strongly suggests that all athletes update their Medical Form after having their annual physical exam, in order to be certain they are able to participate in all SOILL programs.
- The new form only requires the examiner's signature. Parent/Guardian signature is not required on this form.

Eligibility Process

- **New athletes who have not participated:** need to submit the new Consent Form and the new Medical Form in order to be eligible to participate.
- **Renewing athletes:** need to submit the new Consent Form immediately and the new Medical Form prior to their previous Med App's expiration date. If an athlete has a valid Med App on file, the medical portion of the Med App remains valid until its expiration date. **However, the athlete must submit the new Consent Form prior to continuing their participation.**

The Medical Referral page only needs to be submitted if an athlete is referred to another doctor for a required follow-up evaluation.

Benefits of the Changes

- The new Medical Form aligns with Special Olympics, Inc. requirements.
- The form is updated to align with current medical practices.
- The form provides on-site medical staff with more thorough information at MedFest opportunities and competitions.
- Medical teams may respond and treat emergencies more effectively.
- The form creates a clearer picture of the athlete's health history.
- Additional demographic information allows Special Olympics Illinois the opportunity to ensure that it is providing inclusive services to all communities.

SOILL is discontinuing use of, and will no longer accept the current Med App form beginning August 1, 2021.

Not providing all of the required information described above may result in a delay in processing paperwork and affect an athlete's eligibility for upcoming events.

Special Olympics Competition

Special Olympics provides quality training & competition, stresses athletic excellence, rewards determination, emphasizes health and celebrates achievements.

We want athletes to do their best, and at the same time develop physical fitness, experience joy, and develop skills and friendships.

Sports is naturally competitive for athletes and parents. Your child may not understand competition and may struggle with the rules and regulations of competition and the sport. **If that is the case, Special Olympics may not be appropriate, and there are other programs that may be more suitable and enjoyable.**



Special Olympics

Please call the NISRA Office to speak with staff to assess which type of program would be the best match for the participant's interests, abilities, time and convenience.