



School Based Athlete Medical Policy

Special Olympics Colorado (SOCO) has the right and responsibility to ensure the safety and well-being of all participants: athletes, coaches, volunteers and staff. Although Special Olympics cannot guarantee the safety of all participants, we recognize the responsibility to take all reasonable steps to promote and ensure a safe environment for everyone involved. Special Olympics General Rules Section 6.02(f)(1) requires that athlete applicants receive a medical exam certifying their fitness to participate prior to being allowed to participate in Special Olympics.

This medical policy requires a ***Special Olympics Application for Participation Form be completed by a "Licensed Medical Professional"***. The form expires three years from the physician's signature. ***A school medical form (regardless of whether it includes the same information as the Special Olympics medical form) will not satisfy the General Requirements of this policy.***

In the past, this medical policy did not apply to students attending SOCO school based events during the school day. In 2008, this policy has been changed by Special Olympics, International to include ***ALL*** athletes participating in Special Olympics. The current amendment to the policy will take effect on 3/3/08. Any SOCO student athlete who does not have a Special Olympics Application for Participation completed and logged in at the SOCO State office will not be allowed to participate in any SOCO sanctioned event until the requirement is met.

This is a policy that Every athlete within Special Olympics must renew the Participation Form every three years. If you have any questions please do not hesitate to contact Chaka Sutton, Vice President of Programs at 800.777.5767 x 102 or 720.359.3102 or via e-mail at css@specialolympicsco.org.

Thank you in advance for your support and understanding.

1/29/2008