

San Mateo- Champion School Agreements

Special
Olympics
Northern California



SCHOOLS
PARTNERSHIP
PROGRAM

Special Olympics and San Mateo County Partnership-

This year Special Olympics Northern California will be partnering with San Mateo County to offer Champion School Agreements (CSA) to individual schools looking to host a Unified Champion School event. Interested schools will apply directly for funds through SONC to support their programming. Below you will find the process of how to apply, the requirements in order to receive funding, and the contact information for the Special Olympics San Mateo Area Manager who can help support your efforts.

Contact Lauren Mulhern SONC Area Manager: Laurenm@sonc.org

Process to Apply for a Champion School Agreement-

- Complete a Champion School Agreement application and send to San Mateo Area Manager, Lauren Mulhern.
- Implement 1 activity in all 3 components to become a Unified Champion School (see below).
- Complete an activity report per season and submit to Lauren via e-mail by the dates listed below.

Three Components of a Champion School;

1. **Unified Sports-** Ex: Unified Sports Competition, Young Athletes Day
2. **Whole School Engagement** – Ex: Fans in the Stands, Respect Campaign, Unified Sports Rally
3. **Inclusive Youth Leadership-** Ex: Inclusive Buddy Club, Unified Student Council Involvement.

CSA Funding Schedule

SONC will allocate a certain amount of money depending on the event hosted, paid in two installments.

<u>Apply between Aug 1st - Oct 31st</u>	<u>Apply between Nov 1st-Jan 31st</u>	<u>Apply between February 1st – May 31st</u>
The first installment of funding will be released 2nd week of November.	The first installment of funding will be released 2nd week of February.	Full Installment Check released no later than May 31st
The second installment will be released not later than May 31st.	The second installment will be released not later than May 31st.	

There will be a limited number of Champion School agreements that are distributed. Priority will go to those involving larger populations within their schools/districts.

Contact us at: laurenm@sonc.org



Unified Champion Schools Information

A Unified Champion School Implements **three specific components**, all of which are intertwined with the others in a cohesive effort to increase social inclusion throughout the school. Those components are:

- **Whole School Engagement and Involvement:** awareness and education activities that promote inclusion and reach the majority of the school population and all students in the school have opportunities to participate through sustained school-wide activities.
- **Inclusive Youth Leadership:** students with and without intellectual disabilities working together to lead and plan advocacy awareness, and other Special Olympics related inclusive activities throughout the school year.
- **Inclusive Sports:** a fully inclusive sports or fitness program that combines an approximately equal number of students with and without intellectual disabilities, such as Special Olympics Unified Sports, Interscholastic Unified Sports, Unified PE or Unified Intramurals.

Why does the Unified Strategy work?

84%

84% of students generally regard the experiences they've had through **their experiences within a Unified Champion School as a positive turning point** in their lives.

87%

87% of students learn that **standing up** for something they **believe is the right thing to do**.

71%

71% of students with and without intellectual disabilities **remained in contact with students with disabilities who they met through their school's inclusive programming after graduation**, with the most sustainable relationships occurring between peers who served as leaders together.

Developing
Pro-social
skills

Students who are engaged in programming develop valuable **pro-social skills**. The majority of students report learning:
• about **helping others** (87%)
• about how their **emotions and attitudes** can affect others (85%)
• that **standing up for something they believe is the right thing to do** (85%)

82%

82% of students felt that they were **able to change their schools for the better**.