



2017-2018 Application Cycle

Program Overview

The Special Olympics National School Recognition Program provides an opportunity for schools across the U.S. to be acknowledged for their achievements with inclusion and their partnership with Special Olympics.

Achievement Standards

10 standards of excellence were developed by a national panel of leaders in education and Special Olympics. When the standards have been met by a school, it is eligible to become a *national banner Unified Champion School*. These schools will be recognized at both the state and national level.

Banners

The distinguished schools that achieve the standards will receive a vinyl banner that reads “Special Olympics National Unified Champion School” and will include the name of that particular school. These are similar to the athletic championship banners that hang in most school gymnasiums. Banners will be presented on an annual basis to schools meeting the standards for the first time.

2017-18 Application Process

All schools are invited to apply through the online application: <http://tiny.cc/SO2017APP>

The form asks how each of the 10 standards have been met by the applying school. A school principal or administrator should be involved in or aware of the application process. He/She may be included on future correspondence related to the application. Only one form should be submitted for each school. Prior to starting the online application, it is recommended to first create a draft of responses to the 10 standards questions.

***IMPORTANT NOTE: The 2018 application is based on activities which took place during the 2017-18 school year.**

Application Review

After the submission deadline, each application will be reviewed by the respective State Special Olympics Program office. Schools will be notified of their application status based on the timeline below. Any questions should be directed to the contact listed below.

2018 Timeline

- Applications Open: April 2nd at 9am Eastern Time
- Applications Close: June 1st at 5pm Eastern Time
- Application Review: June-July
- School Notification: August-September 2018
- Applications Re-Open: Spring 2019

Contact Information

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