



Special Olympics
Minnesota



Special Olympics, Inc. offers non-invasive health care services to athletes at local, state, national and World Games venues through the Healthy Athletes program. These services have included individual screening assessments of health status and health care needs, provision of health education, routine preventive services (e.g. protective mouth guards), educational services, and, in the case of vision and hearing deficits, provision of needed eyewear (glasses, swim goggles, protective eyewear) and hearing aids. Athletes are informed as to their health status and advised as to the need for follow-up care. In addition, information collected at the time services are provided has been invaluable for developing policies, securing resources and implementing programs to better meet the health needs of athletes.

Such health services will be made available to Special Olympics athletes where offered through Healthy Athletes venues. Services may be offered in the following areas: vision; oral health; hearing; physical therapy; and a variety of health promotion areas (height, weight, sun protection, etc.). These services will be free of charge and are available to all Special Olympics athletes whether they are competing at the specific Games event or not. The services will be delivered by qualified health professionals who, in addition, have received Special Olympics-provided training. Many of the volunteer health professionals have previous experience in serving Special Olympics athletes and other special needs patients.

Authorization for Minors: I authorize the participation of _____ (athlete's full name) in the Healthy Athletes screening venues. I understand that participation in the Healthy Athletes venues is voluntary and that authorization can be withdrawn at any time without penalty and that participation in Healthy Athletes is not a requirement for participating in other Special Olympics activities. I understand that the provision of these health services is not intended as a substitute or alternative to regular care that has been received in the past or that may be recommended in the future. I understand that information that is gathered as part of the screening process may be used in group form (anonymously) to assess and communicate the overall health needs of athletes and to develop programs to address those needs.

Athlete's Printed Name

Birthdate

Special Olympics Minnesota Delegation

Parent or Guardian Signature (for athletes 17 years old and under)

Date

Athlete Signature (for athletes 18 years old or older)

Date

NOTE: This authorization shall remain effective unless the consenting party requests termination or the scope of the Healthy Athletes program changes materially.