Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs) for the 2025 Special Olympics BC Summer Games Volunteers

General Information

1. When and where are the 2025 Special Olympics BC Summer Games?

The Games will take place in Prince George, BC, from July 10-12, 2025. Volunteer opportunities will be available from July 9-13, and in-person orientation sessions may be held on July 8-9. See the volunteer timeline below.



2. What types of volunteer roles are available?

No matter your skills and background, we have a role where you will make a difference and share the joy! You can learn more about each volunteer area here: 2025 SOBC Games: Volunteer | Special Olympics British Columbia.

3. Do I need prior experience to volunteer?

No prior games experience is required! However, certain roles may require specific qualifications (e.g. Logistics drivers need to have a valid Driver's License and Medical volunteers need to at least have first-aid training). No matter your skills and background, we have a role where you will make a difference and share the joy!

4. Is there an age requirement to volunteer?

Yes, you must be at least 14 years old to volunteer with the Special Olympics BC Games.

Registration & Role Selection?

5. How do I sign up to volunteer?

Volunteers who are at least 19 years old must register through the official 2025 Special Olympics BC Summer Games Volunteer platform provided by viaSport British Columbia. Once registration opens on April 1, 2025, you can visit <u>our website</u> to create an account and complete your registration form.

A parent or guardian must complete the registration form for volunteers who are between 14 and 18 years of age. Please contact <u>volunteers@specialolympics.bc.ca</u> for instructions.

6. How do I select a volunteer role?

Shifts and roles will be available for selection on and after May 15, 2025. Simply log in to the <u>SOBC Games volunteer portal</u> provided by viaSport BC, click on your preferred areas, review the descriptions of each available shift, and sign up for your desired shift(s).

7. Can I withdraw my shift after signing up?

Yes, you can log in to the SOBC Games volunteer portal provided by viaSport BC to make changes before June 25, 2025.

If you need to withdraw any shifts on or after June 25, 2025, please contact us at volunteers@specialolympics.bc.ca.

8. What is the deadline to apply?

Registration will be open until spots are filled. Spots may fill up quickly. To secure your preferred place and avoid disappointment, we strongly encourage you to apply early.

9. Will I need a background check?

Volunteers for the vital roles in accommodations, medical, and security must complete a Criminal Record Check prior to the Games. Instructions will be provided for this quick and free of charge process!

Scheduling and Training

10. When will I find out my volunteer shift schedule?

Shifts and roles will be available for selection on and after May 15, 2025.

Once you sign up for shifts, you can view your shift times and locations anytime by logging into your account on the <u>SOBC Games volunteer portal</u> provided by viaSport BC.

11. Is there mandatory training for volunteers?

Yes, training will be provided for all Games volunteers. In advance of Games, we encourage all volunteers to complete the online orientation available here: Special Olympics Canada

<u>Volunteer Orientation</u>. Everyone will also be invited to attend one of the scheduled inperson orientation sessions tentatively scheduled on July 8th or 9th. In addition, some roles may also require on-site training. More details will be communicated by email as soon as they're available.

During the Games

12. What should I wear while volunteering?

Volunteers will receive an official Games volunteer T-shirt and must wear comfortable clothing and closed-toe shoes.

13. Will meals be provided?

Volunteers working shifts of up to 4 hours will be provided with snacks and drinks. A meal will be offered for those working shifts longer than 4 hours or those working shifts that include mealtimes.

14. Can I request to volunteer with friends or family?

Yes, you can select the same shifts as your friends or family if those shifts are not yet filled.

Other Questions

15. Can I volunteer if I have a physical disability?

Yes, please contact us at <u>volunteers@specialolympics.bc.ca</u> and we will help you find a suitable role.

16. Who do I contact if I have additional questions?

For more information, please contact us at volunteers@specialolympics.bc.ca.