



Frequently Asked Questions

- **Who is eligible for Young Athletes?**
Any child aged 2 - 7 years, with or without an intellectual disability is eligible for Young Athletes Program.
- **Does my child need to have a physical exam before participating in Young Athletes?**
No, at this time, Young Athlete participants only need to have a completed parent/guardian consent form.
- **Does my child's form expire?**
Yes, your child's form expires 3 years from the original date it was signed, or once they turn 8 years of age.
- **Is there a fee to participate in Young Athletes?**
No, Young Athletes, like traditional Special Olympics sports is offered at no charge to participating athletes.
- **Is Young Athletes a competitive sports program?**
No, Young Athletes is an introduction to sports. It focuses on cognitive development and motor-skill development through sport skill programs.
- **Can Young Athletes be included at a Spring Games event?**
Absolutely! Young Athletes is a great way to include "future" athletes who do not meet the 8 year old age requirement.
- **Does a child have to be enrolled in a school/preschool to participate?**
No, any child can participate in Young Athletes Program.
- **What happens when a Young Athlete participant turns 8?**
If he/she has an intellectual disability, they are eligible to compete in traditional Special Olympics, once a physician and parent has signed an athlete participation form.
- **How do I get an activity guide?**
Visit our website at <http://sonc.net/compete/sports-offered/young-athletes-program/>
- **How do I get a YAP kit?**
Contact the Special Olympics North Carolina Young Athletes Program representative
- **I hear Flaghouse has a YAP Kit. Do we have to use their kit?**
No you can put together your own kit.