



To: Special Olympics Georgia Agencies and Volunteers

Date: 11/21/2014

Thank you for your continued support of the athletes involved in the Special Olympics Georgia program, we appreciate your time and dedication.

Special Olympics Georgia has adopted some changes to our background screening policy for Class A Volunteers (See below list/descriptions of Class A Volunteers).

Our background screening policy is as follows:

All Class A volunteers will need to have a current, clear background screening on file with the Special Olympics Georgia state office. From the date of completion of the screening, each background screening will be valid for 3 years. After 3 years, the current background screening will cease to be valid and a new background screening will be required before said volunteer can continue in any Class A volunteer position or activity with Special Olympics Georgia. All background screenings completed before December 31, 2014 will be considered current until December 31, 2017, at which time a new screening will need to be procured.

The only background screenings that will be accepted by Special Olympics Georgia, in order to be considered a Class A volunteer, are those screenings procured from an approved vendor through Special Olympics Georgia. Currently, the only approved vendor is Verified Volunteers, Inc.

Effective as of January 1, 2015, Special Olympics Georgia will no longer cover the entire cost of a Class A volunteer's background screening. The entire cost of one background screening through Verified Volunteers, Inc. is \$6.00. Special Olympics Georgia will pay \$3.00 of every background screening for Class A volunteers. We will require the other \$3.00 be paid by the Class A volunteer requiring the background screening. This cost will be required of the Class A volunteer at the time the background screening is ordered from Verified Volunteers, Inc. Ordering of the background screening will be completed by the Class A volunteer on the Verified Volunteer, Inc. website. Special Olympics Georgia will provide the Class A volunteer with the website link via an e-mail invite from Verified Volunteers, Inc. Before said volunteer will be allowed to submit his/her order on line, the \$3.00 payment will be required. The web link provided in the e-mail invite must be utilized in order for the background screening to be linked with Special Olympics Georgia's account.

Once a background screening has been reviewed by Verified Volunteers, Inc., a report will be provided automatically to the Class A volunteer and to Special Olympics Georgia via the secure online account through Verified Volunteers, Inc.

Volunteer positions that are required to be Class A status are as follows:

- Local Coordinators
- Area Management Team members
- Local Management Team members
- Certified coaches
- State Games, Games Organizing Committee Members
- Bus drivers, nurses, chaperones, unified partners and any other volunteer attending a State Competition with a Special Olympics Georgia delegation.

If you have additional questions please email Liz Smith:

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