

STATE COMPETITION MINIMUM ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA

To be eligible to attend the end-of-season Special Olympics MD final competition, the following criteria must be met:

- Must attend a minimum of 80% of practices and at a minimum complete 8 weeks and 10 total hours of training and competition experiences with a certified Special Olympics coach prior to a state competition.
- Must participate in two preliminary competitions (i.e., if a competition is offered in that sport - several sports do not currently have preliminary competitions, e.g., cycling and skiing).
- Must meet the sports minimum requirements for competition (e.g., swimmers must be able to swim a minimum distance).

STATE COMPETITION SELECTION PROCESS

Athletes and parents must be aware that state slots are sometimes limited and participation each year is not guaranteed. If slots are limited, and after meeting the requirements above, the following will apply:

Children of coordinators, coaches, and management will be guaranteed a slot for state competitions in the sport of their choice if the athlete meets the minimum requirements of eligibility stated above.

Their intentions must be known at the beginning of the season.

For remaining slots, we will employ a rotating selection process in order to give all athletes a chance to eventually participate.

Note that individuals that were approved to go to a state competition and fail to attend without giving one week notification and do not have just cause (e.g., death in family or unforeseen emergency) will forfeit their eligibility to be considered the next year.