



**Special Olympics U.S.A. - Coaching Progression**

This coaching progression was developed by the Special Olympics North America Coach Development Resource Team and the United States Leadership Council Coach Education Committee. USLC Leadership (Program CEO’s) has endorsed this progression as an opportunity for volunteers to receive training at the level they are interested in coaching.

**SPORT ASSISTANT**

*(Entry Level Requirements)*

- Class A Form / Complete Background Check
- Special Olympics General Orientation
- Protective Behaviors Training
- Concussion Course

**LEVEL 1 – CERTIFIED COACH**

*(Core Coaching Knowledge)*

**Traditional Special Olympics**

- All Sport Assistant requirements
- Coaching Special Olympics Athletes – online course via Human Kinetics Coach Education (formerly ASEP) or in person training conducted by Program approved trainer

**Unified Sports**

- All Sport Assistant requirements
- Coaching Unified Sports – online course via NFHS or in person training conducted by a Program approved trainer

**LEVEL 2 – CERTIFIED COACH\***

*(Sports Specific Knowledge)*

**Traditional Special Olympics**

- All Level 1 requirements
- Sports Specific Course – online for those sports where online courses have been developed or in-person sport specific training

**Unified Sports**

- All Level 1 requirements
- Sport Specific Course – online for those sports where online courses have been developed or in-person sport specific training

*\* NOTE: Level required of Head Coaches attending USA National Games in the specific sport being coached*

**LEVEL 3 – CERTIFIED COACH\*\***

*(Advanced Coaching Knowledge)*

- All Level 2 requirements
- Principles of Coaching Course – online or in person training conducted by a Program approved trainer

*\*\* NOTE: Level required of Head Coaches attending World Games.*