



Special Olympics Global Youth Leadership Forum

September 24-28, 2018 || Baku, Azerbaijan

FAQ

What is the Special Olympics Global Youth Leadership Forum?

The Forum will be a global convening, bringing together youth leaders with and without intellectual disabilities and adult leaders representing Special Olympics Programs from around the world. They will join leaders in sport and education, decision makers on national and international levels, sponsors, media, and celebrity ambassadors to create a global catalyst for the Unified Generation.

Who should attend the Forum?

Programs are encouraged to have a delegation of 5 individuals from the Program apply: one youth leader with an intellectual disability, one youth leader without an intellectual disability, one adult mentor, one educator/coach, and one Program leader/staff member.

What is the Program expected to accomplish after attending the Forum?

During the application process, the youth leaders will be required to complete a proposal for an inclusive project that they would like to lead in their school/community after the Forum. All members of the delegation will play a role in the success of the proposed project, from direct implementation by the youth leaders to the guidance of the mentor, and the support from educator/coach and Program leader. Throughout the Forum, the youth leaders will further develop their project proposals and collaborate with members of their delegation and peers from around the world. After the Forum has concluded, the delegation will be responsible for ensuring the implementation and success of the project.

Will funds be available to support the project?

Yes. After the Forum has concluded, the youth leaders will have an opportunity to apply for an innovation grant with their refined project plan. Innovation grants are project-based grants of \$1000-\$2,500 USD awarded to young leaders with and without intellectual disabilities (ID) so they can promote inclusion in their school and community.

Can a Program apply without a delegation of 5?

Yes. Delegations of 5 are preferred, but we encourage any interested Program to submit an application. Priority will be given to Programs that apply with a delegation of 5.



Will there be specific content for educators/coaches and Program leaders?

The content and information shared at the Forum will be relevant and beneficial to all attendees. Throughout the Forum, there will be breakout sessions specific to the role of the attendee (educator/coach, youth leaders, and Program leaders) that will provide focused discussions and resources applying the information learned to concrete action in their Program.

What costs will the Program be responsible for?

Programs will be responsible for the travel costs to and from Baku, Azerbaijan, including visas as needed. All on-site costs will be covered by the event organizers.

How is this Forum different from the Global Youth Summit that will be taking place at 2019 World Games?

Coinciding with a year-long set of celebrations planned to mark the 50th anniversary of the founding of Special Olympics, the Global Youth Leadership Forum is the global flagship youth leadership event for the 50th Anniversary. It highlights the strategic importance of youth and Unified Sports engagement in the Special Olympics movement now and in the next 50 years. Held outside of a World Games, the Forum will focus specifically on unlocking the potential of youth engagement to drive the Movement and create a Unified Generation.

How do we apply?

The application is completed online, and can be found [here](#). The application is to be completed by every individual from the Program that is interested in attending. **There are certain sections of the application that the youth pair must complete together.**

When do we need to apply by?

Applications must be submitted by 14 May 2018.

Whom can we contact for more information?

For specific information regarding the Forum, please contact your Regional youth/initiatives staff member. For additional support, please contact Kaitlyn Smith at ksmith@specialolympics.org or Sabine Menke at smenke@specialolympics.org.

An optional Q&A webinar will be hosted for any individuals requesting more information. The webinar will be hosted in English on 2 May 2018 at 18:00 AZT (click [here](#) to convert to your time zone). Click [here](#) to register for the webinar.