



Champions TOGETHER



INTERSCHOLASTIC UNIFIED TRACK AND FIELD GRANTS

School requirements for receiving this one year grant:

- Schools form interscholastic unified track and field teams comprised of approximately equal numbers of students with and without intellectual disabilities.
- Schools have a minimum of two coaches assigned to unified track and field. Coaches must complete the NFHS Special Olympics Unified Sports® Course (free) and are encouraged to complete the VHSL Basic Coaches Education Course prior to the start of the season.
- Schools have a minimum of two practices a week for a minimum of eight weeks and participate in at least two competitions.
- Schools participate in the VHSL unified relay demonstration during the Track and Field State Championship as appropriate.
- Schools supply documentation for expenditures and complete all paperwork (including survey) and submit to Special Olympics Virginia no later than June 15, 2015.
- Schools complete the requirements listed below of the Champions Together program within two years.

Champions Together Program 2014-16:

The Champions Together partnership will provide a banner to all schools that meet minimum requirements in the areas of 1) **student led servant leadership**, 2) **awareness and inclusion** as it relates to all individuals with intellectual disabilities, 3) **volunteerism** and 4) **fundraising** to insure the sustainability of the Champions Together program.

Champions Together Program Requirements:

- Activities must be planned and administered by an inclusive student leadership team.
- A school wide awareness/respect/inclusion activity is held annually.
- Fundraising activities are held as necessary to insure the sustainability of the Champions Together program. The school keeps 75% of all funds raised to use for the Champions Together program and other school initiatives if more funds are raised than required. 25% of all funds raised are used by Special Olympics Virginia to help cover the costs of running the Champions Together program.

Participating School Grant:

Up to 20 schools will receive reimbursement for up to \$2,500 in expenses as a one-year grant in 2014-15 to start the program. Allowable expenses include:

- Uniforms and equipment (such as stop watches, shot puts, batons, etc.).
- Coaches' stipends (must have 2 coaches—the preferred model is for one coach with track and field experience and one coach familiar with working with students with intellectual disabilities).
- VHSL Basic Coach Course
- VHSL student insurance
- VHSL medical exam
- R-word supplies
- Transportation