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**Special  
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New Jersey



# **Unified Champion Schools 2020-2021 Program Funding Application**

## **OVERVIEW AND GUIDELINES**

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# Unified Champion Schools 2020-2021 Program Funding Application

## OVERVIEW AND GUIDELINES

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Special Olympics New Jersey (SONJ) is pleased to present the funding guidelines and application forms for the 2020-2021 Unified Champion School Program. Applicants are encouraged to contact SONJ staff with questions or for assistance at [scc@sonj.org](mailto:scc@sonj.org). **Applications will be reviewed on a rolling basis through October 30, 2020. Awards will be announced within 2-3 weeks of receiving the completed application.**

## About Special Olympics Unified Champion Schools Program

Special Olympics Unified Champion Schools is aimed at creating socially inclusive school communities where equity, inclusivity, safety and opportunity for every student are the norm. Through evidence-based strategies and customized implementation resources, UCS provides schools and districts with the tools to unify all students— with and without disabilities—using Unified Sports and Inclusive Leadership as catalysts for positive, school-wide change.

## Unified Champion Schools Program Funds

Special Olympics New Jersey is committed to ensuring that every individual has an equal opportunity to participate safely and successfully in physical education and athletics and the extracurricular and social activities that lead to a healthy, active and fulfilling lifestyle.

Unified Champion School Program Funds offer support for activities that bring students with and without disabilities together as classmates, teammates, friends and agents of change in their school. **The focus moves beyond volunteerism** toward meaningful interaction and building relationships, creating equal opportunity and a level playing field where students discover that they all have uniquely different **abilities**.

**Unified Champion Schools conduct activities in three areas: Inclusive Leadership, Unified Sports® and Whole School Engagement.** Together, these youth-led strategies **bring students with and without disabilities together in repeated, meaningful interactions that promote positive school climate.** All students have access to opportunities to participate in school sports, clubs and social activities fostering genuine social inclusion.

- 1. Unified Sports®** provide youth with and without intellectual disabilities the opportunity to train and play together as teammates. Unified Champion Schools ensure that all students can access experiences to develop their athletic skills and represent their school as athletes and leaders, all while cultivating understanding and a community of camaraderie through friendships that form on and off the playing field.
- 2. Inclusive Youth Leadership** recognizes that all students have leadership potential. In Unified Clubs, students of all abilities come together as equals to discover one another's strengths. While finding their own voice, students find a shared voice as change agents to create a school where every student belongs and thrives. Students learn to co-lead and play alongside one another, rather than engage as helpers or volunteers.
- 3. Whole School Engagement.** Changing the culture requires engaging the entire school community. Through youth-led activities and programs that promote school-wide involvement, social inclusion, education and awareness, celebration and fun you will see the impact on climate and attitudes. Examples include Pep Rallies, Unified PE, Unified Fitness and/or "Fans in the Stands," Respect Campaigns and fundraising activities.

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## What We Fund

UCS Program Funds help schools implement a combination of effective activities that foster system-wide change. Young people and adults are equipped with tools and training to combat stereotypes, eliminate hurtful language and foster safe and healthy activities and interactions.

The goal: students of all abilities come together as peers, teammates and friends in a school community that is welcoming, values the engagement of all students and is free from bullying, exclusion and negative attitudes.

- **We support projects and activities that create repeated, meaningful and sustainable inclusive sports, social and education opportunities.** All activities must aim to engage approximately equal numbers of students with and without disabilities of similar ages as teammates, classmates and peers.
- **We are unable to support one-time events such as Unified Game Days and assemblies are not considered primary funding activities.** These can be included in the overall program offerings as culminating events or whole school engagement activities, but the **focus should be placed on activities that bring students together regularly in nearly equal ratios, or as close as possible, so they can form sustainable relationships and meaningful interactions.**
- While activities such as clinics or “buddy ball,” where school athletes of advanced ability coach and assist athletes with special needs, are valuable and can be included as Player Development in your Unified Sports program, they should not be the only or primary Unified Sports initiative.

## Non-Allowable Expenses

The funds are made possible primarily from funds from the United States Department of Education and the New Jersey Department of Education and therefore are subject to strict spending guidelines. **When preparing applications, keep in mind that funds cannot be used for:**

- Any activity that includes only students with or without disabilities
- Parties and one-time celebrations
- Field trips and other out-of-school activities that include students not directly participating in the Play Unified Club and sports activities. For example, funds cannot be used for reverse inclusion activities that take the special needs class on a trip with an entire general education class
- Food and drink- only snacks and water during sports and club activities. You may request lunches during a sports or youth leadership event, but it **MUST BE PRE-APPROVED.**
- Fees for assembly speakers or presentations
- Stipends or payments for activities that take place during instructional time
- Arts and crafts activities that are not directly related to Unified Club or Unified Sports initiatives
- Durable equipment and supplies

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## UCS Program Funds Categories

Please select one of the four funding categories below. Districts implementing Unified programming in more than two schools will complete an application and budget for each school. If the programming is the same in multiple schools, feel free to use the same content in each application.

**Due to changes in our stipend payment policy, (see next page), we are introducing a new category for Stipend only funding.**

Please call Susan Colacello at 609-896-8000 ext. 284 if you have any questions regarding which funding category is most appropriate for your school or district.

### **Category One: Middle School and High School Program Funds**

**Up to \$4,500** to implement a complete Unified Champion Schools plan that includes organizing activities in all three components: Unified Leadership Club, Unified Sports and Whole School Engagement initiatives.

### **Category Two: District Level Program Funds**

**Up to \$30,000** for a district with at least three schools to implement all three Unified Champion School components in each school.

### **Category Three: Elementary School Program Funds**

Elementary Schools are eligible for funding **up to \$2,500** to implement Unified strategies and activities including Unified Pals, Unified Readers, Unified PE, Choose to Include Weeks and Balance Bikes.

### **Category Four: Stipend Only Program Funds**

Schools and districts can apply for funding that will be used solely to cover fees for Unified Club Advisers, UCS District Coordinators and Unified Sports Coaches. SONJ will send a check for the full amount of the UCS Program Funds award to the school or district and the district will pay the fees.

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## **Adviser and Unified Sports Coach Stipends: Qualifications and Eligibility Criteria**

Unified Club Advisers and Unified Sports Coaches are eligible for stipends. When creating your budget, stipends should be appropriate and pro-rated in alignment with the district pay scale for clubs and athletics. We ask each applicant to work within their school pay structure and rates to determine the stipend amounts. When estimating your coaching fees, please understand there is not enough funding to support full coaching fees for any one school to conduct more than two sports.

## **CHANGE IN STIPEND PAYMENT POLICY**

**Starting this year, we will no longer be able to pay coach and adviser stipends directly.** With our most recent audit review and at the direction of SONJ's CFO, stipends for individuals performing tasks pertaining to your school's Unified Champion Schools program must be paid by the school or school district. The school or school district can determine if they will pay the individual as a contractor or as an employee. The individuals performing these duties are chosen by the school or school district and work under the direction of the school or school district. Therefore, monies paid for their services must come from the school or school district. Per the Unified Champion Schools Program Funds award, monies allocated for stipends will be reimbursed by SONJ to the school or school district.

For more information: <https://www.nj.gov/labor/ea/audit/independent-contractor-vs-employees/>

**Monthly, midterm and final reports must be current before stipends will be paid.**



## Stipend Eligibility Requirements

### Unified Club Adviser Stipends

- Stipends are only paid for activities that take place **outside of instructional time**. Club Adviser and Unified Sports coaching for activities that are conducted during physical education classes or other class time are not eligible for stipends. To qualify for a stipend, activities must take place during lunch, prep time, after school or on weekends and days off.
- To qualify for an Adviser stipend, the **club must meet a minimum of twice a month, under the adviser's supervision, for a minimum of 8 months**. We strongly encourage clubs to meet weekly.

### UCS District Coordinator Stipends

Up to \$4,000, a district with more than two schools can request funding to pay a UCS District Coordinator to organize the programming throughout the district, maintain communication and offer technical assistance to participating schools. SONJ will offer training and support to all District Coordinators in 2020.

### Unified Sports Coach Stipends

School and District leadership team members should work together to establish fee rates for Unified Sports coaches based on time commitment and school/district policies.

- Unified Sports Coach stipends are **only offered at the Middle and High School** levels.
- **Elementary schools do not qualify for Unified coach stipends, if they are conducting Unified Sports programs after school or outside of instructional hours, they would consider that a Unified Club Adviser stipend.**
- To qualify for a **Unified Coach stipend, an intramural, intra-district or interscholastic Unified sports program must include a minimum of 6 practices and participation in a culminating competitive event. The coach must complete the Special Olympics NFSA online Coaching Unified Sports course, protective behaviors and any other SONJ necessary paperwork.** Pro-rated stipends can be paid for Unified Sports activities that include a minimum of 3 practices and a culminating competitive event.
- **Stipends are not paid for coaching one-time events, attending Special Olympics New Jersey or other one-time Unified Game Days or activities that take place during Physical Education.**
- **Unified Sports coach stipends do not apply to coaching Unified Special Olympics LTP/traditional sports activities.**
- Unified Coach Stipends are **not paid for running a Young Athletes program.**

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## Funding Requirements

- 1. Implement all three components:** Unified Champion Schools conduct activities that bring students with and without disabilities together in repeated, meaningful experiences and interactions, and impact the entire school community. **Each school must implement at least one activity in all three Unified Champion School components**, including establishing a Unified Club, running at least one Unified Sports activity and holding a minimum of one Whole School Engagement event.
- 2. Establish a School and/or District Leadership Team:** the multi-disciplinary team communicates and coordinates regularly to set goals and facilitate implementation of your UCS strategies and activities.
- 3. Sign and return UCS Program Funds Commitment Letter:** With the award letter, you will receive a Commitment letter that an administrator must sign and return to make funds available.
- 4. Complete and submit all monthly, midterm and final reports on time:** Our funders require us to report on participation numbers and activity monthly, therefore we must have reports from you. A failure to submit reports by the deadline will result in a freeze on your funding until reports are received.
- 5. Maintain communication and request technical assistance when needed:** Remember this is a partnership, we are here to help every school implement the UCS strategies in a high quality and successful way that meets the goals and vision for inclusion, acceptance and positive outcomes for every student.
- 6. Planning and Sustainability Guidelines:**
  - Develop long-term plans to budget for Unified expenses and ensure Unified programs will continue without SONJ support.
  - Participate in professional development opportunities offered by SONJ.
  - Carry out at least one fundraising activity, such as the Cool School Challenge Plunge or a school-based fundraiser.
  - Send a School Liaison and/Adviser and a minimum of 2 youth leaders to at least one SONJ Youth Leadership Summit.
  - Hold at least one School Leadership Team meeting to discuss plan for 2020-2021 following award.
  - Adjust program to approved budget and follow the acceptable spending guidelines outlined in UCS Program Funds Award Letter.

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## Completing the Program Funding Application

### **STEP 1: Assemble School and/or District Leadership Team.**

Each applicant must have a **School Leadership Team (SLT)** in place to oversee the planning and implementation of the Unified Schools and Unified Sports programs. The team should consist of members from special services, athletics, administration, school safety team, guidance and general education. **Establishing this interdepartmental collaboration is essential to successful implementation.**

### **STEP 2: Identify School and District Liaison.**

The liaison will serve as the primary contact with SONJ and complete the UCS Program Funds Application Cover Sheet, Project Description and attached Budget Workbook with support of the SLT. The liaison will also be responsible for all program funding reporting throughout the year. He or she should carefully read the program funding guidelines and requirements and consult with the administration, SLT and SONJ with any questions. **It is important the liaison completing this application is an administrator or has obtained school administration approval before submitting the application.** District programs are strongly encouraged to have a district coordinator and a school liaison for each school included on the program funding application.

### **STEP 3: Convene the School Leadership Team to Establish Goals, Activities and Budget.**

Bring together SLT members to discuss your school or district plan: how will your school establish a Unified Club, what Unified Sports activities can you successfully implement, how will you incorporate Whole School Engagement events like Choose to Include Week, Fundraisers and Pep Rallies. Estimating costs for these activities will determine the appropriate funding level. Keep in mind, it is fine to start small with a plan to build over time.

### **STEP 4: Select Funding Category for Your Request.**

Based on your SLT planning session, determine the category of funding. Based on the projected activities build your budget and identify where school funds can be used or fundraisers you will conduct to help cover expenses.

### **STEP 5: Complete Application and Budget Workbook.**

**Write your responses to all questions in a WORD Doc. and SAVE.** Then, submit the answers to your questions when prompted in the application. Submit your Budget Workbook when prompted in the application.

### **STEP 6: Plan Ahead for Next Year.**

Determine what Unified Sports and Unified Club activities you will be undertaking so you can put logistics in place now. Think about what actions need to be taken this spring before school gets out to secure needed fields or gym space, ensure students have sports physicals, post Adviser and Coach positions, gain board approval, secure transportation etc. If you plan to participate in Unified Cup soccer in the fall, look now to recruit your players and make sure parents are informed to complete school physicals over the summer.

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## Application Checklist to Submit to SONJ

- **Electronic Form:** The electronic form must be completed with the budget and project description attached. If you are a return application, your application will auto-fill for district and school contacts. Make any changes and additions as needed to your contacts.
- **Project Description:** Use the School Project Description question to answer the questions and upload it into the electronic form.
- **Budget Workbook:** Include with expenses and budget justification information and any shared costs and upload it into the electronic form.

### FOR DISTRICT LEVEL APPLICATIONS:

- You will be completing a separate application and budget for each school. You can use replicate content if the programs at several schools are the same.
- If possible include information on district-wide goals, interactions across grade levels and ways UCS can be used to transition students from building to building; i.e. elementary to middle, middle to high school.

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## District Information

In order for your application to be considered complete, you must include contact information for the Superintendent **or** Assistant Superintendent, the Director of Athletics **or** Director of Health & Physical Education **AND** the Director of Special Services. With this in consideration, **you must have at least three contacts completed in this section.**

**Please enter the contact information for the individual who will serve as your District Liaison first.** This individual should know what is happening in all Unified Champion Schools receiving funding.

## School Leadership Team

Each school is required to form a School Leadership Team in place. The team should include key individuals that are committed to ensuring the resources, policies, facilities and priorities support the implementation of the UCS strategies. Team members can include: UCS Liaison, Unified club adviser, Unified Sports coach, Principal/Assistant Principal and faculty Athletics/P.E., Special Services, General Education, Anti-bully/School Safety/Guidance, etc.

In order for your application to be considered complete, include contact information for the Unified Club Adviser and the School/District Liaison (they can be the same person) along with district and school administration contacts.

If you have contact information for additional members at this time, please include that in the Additional Member(s) section.

**SCHOOL LEADERSHIP TEAM MEMBERS SHOULD BE UNIQUE TO EACH SCHOOL INCLUDED IN THE APPLICATION.**

### School/District Liaison

The Liaison is the leader of the School Leadership Team, responsible for managing the UCS programming and knowing what is happening with both the Unified Schools and Unified Sports programs. The liaison is also responsible for completing all reports required by SONJ. This person will be SONJ's main contact for ALL communication.

### Primary Club Adviser

The Unified Club Adviser is main facilitator for the youth leaders and point person on all activities related to the school's Unified Club. The Club Adviser ensures the club meets at least once a month, for at least 8 months of the school year. Club Advisers help youth leaders organize activities, run the Choose to Include Week, and attend Youth Summits with student members. Club Advisers ensure the three components of a Unified Champion School (Unified Sports & Skill Development, Inclusive Youth Leadership and Whole School Engagement) are being implemented.

**NOTE: The School/District Liaison and Unified Club Adviser can be the same person.**

**If you do not have an Adviser at the time of this application, you can provide a name by September 31st.**

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## **Initiative Descriptions**

Please read the following before you select which initiatives you will implement.

### **Inclusive Youth Leadership**

#### **State Youth Leadership Committee**

Youth leaders from across the state are nominated to participate on the SONJ State Youth Leadership Committee. The Committee serves as a voice for our Unified Club members, offers feedback and guidance to SONJ and creates and organizes activities, campaigns and resources for Unified Clubs and youth leaders across the state.

#### **Summer Games Youth Leadership Experience**

Youth Leaders are eligible to apply each year to be part of the youth leadership delegation at SONJ's Summer Games. Team members spend the weekend at the Games, volunteering at venues, assisting with media coverage and learning about Special Olympics and the operations and management the Games.

#### **Unified Club- Inclusive Youth Leaders and Members**

The Unified Club members are the ambassadors and leaders for inclusion in your school. Youth Leadership Board is made up Unified Club members with and without disabilities that serve as the Club's officers and leadership team. They work together over the course of the year to develop strategies to promote social inclusion and engage all young people as agents of change. The Youth Leadership Board establishes sub-committees and organizes activities that allow kids to be involved in many different ways. They collaborate with other school clubs and leadership organizations to increase awareness and grow the movement in their school and community.

#### **Unified Pals**

Students with and without disabilities are paired as peers and teammates for the course of the year. This is mainly offered in elementary schools, but can also apply to Best Buddies or Partner Clubs that pair students with and without disabilities one-to-one for school activities.

#### **Youth Leadership Summits**

SONJ organizes approximately 10 Youth Leadership Summits to bring youth leaders together for leadership training, networking and team building. Youth Summits are held throughout the year, across the state. The leadership activities done at Youth Summits help students with and without intellectual disabilities find their voices by teaching them to become change agents striving for respect and inclusion. Youth Summits are a great place to plan what club members would like to do in their Play Unified Club and plan what changes they would like to see at their school.

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## Unified Sports

### **Learn. Practice. Play. UNIFIED. Inclusive Physical Education**

An inclusive P.E. program where all students have access to a fun, positive and meaningful experience. Introduce an equitable peer partner strategy, where all students participate as teammates and leaders. Although the ratio of students with to without disabilities may be high, teachers employ modifications and adaptations that ensure participation and successful engagement for each student in the class.

### **Unified P.E.**

Unified Physical Education brings students of varying ability levels and backgrounds together on equal terms through ongoing sports skills, leadership, and fitness and wellness activities. This course focuses on the physical, intellectual and social growth of all participants and fostering positive social relationships. The class size is smaller with a ratio of 1-3 students without disabilities to those with. All students receive credit; no volunteers or pulling from class. Unified PE fosters leadership skills and the empowerment of ALL students.

### **Unified Club Intramurals**

Take sports beyond the school day, and establish an after-school/weekend sports club where students can explore and play a variety of sports in a social and inclusive recreational setting. This is a great way to introduce students to team play and game rules in a less competitive environment. This option often works well for schools that are new to the program and need to gauge the sport interest and skill levels of their students.

### **Unified Club Recreation**

Offer recreational festivals, invitationals, skills programs, Rec Night/Weekends, Unified Recess, Unified Game Days outside of the schools day or at your local YMCA or Rec Center. Students with and without disabilities play together with needed modifications and mentoring. Recreational play does not follow any prescribed training, competition and/or team composition requirements.

### **Unified Cup Championships**

Unified Cup Championships are SONJ organized state competitions in soccer, bowling and basketball for high school Unified Club Interscholastic teams and College Unified teams. The Unified Cups typically have two divisions, one more competitive and one more recreational.

### **NJSIAA Interscholastic Unified Sports**

NJSIAA Interscholastic Unified Sports offer students with and without disabilities who would not otherwise have the opportunity to represent their school, proudly wear the school team uniform and having the potential to earn a Varsity letter and jacket. They participate in regional and conference competitions, culminating in a NJSIAA State Championships in Unified bowling, basketball and track and field. Unified teams should be organized through the athletic department as school teams and practice and travel as part of school teams as appropriate.

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## **Unified Fitness Club, Unified Fitness Challenge**

Youth leaders can organize fun fitness activities and challenges to get their peers moving together toward a healthy lifestyle and inclusive school community. Include Unified Fitness into your Unified Club or start a school-wide Unified Fitness Challenge. SONJ will provide a Unified Fitness Kit with activities, exercises and other resources to assist your Youth Leaders in organizing a school-wide walking or workout challenge or integrating fitness into their Unified Club or Unified PE sessions. You can also challenge the staff and families to get involved and use.

## **Unified Game Days**

Celebrate and demonstrate the skills your students have learned in Unified P.E., or offer a fun opportunity for students to interact as teammates by hosting a Unified Game day. These events can be done any time during the school year. Students participate on teams or in Unified Pairs with the students they've practiced and interacted with all year.

## **Unified Rec Night/Weekends**

Once a week for 6-8 weeks, schedule a Unified Rec Night for pick up soccer, basketball, volleyball, kickball or any other fun inclusive activity. Host a culminating event at the end of the sessions. The Rec Night should be sponsored and promoted by your Play Unified Club. Unified Rec can be open to all ages and is a great way to also involve the PTOs and families in your district.

## **Young Athletes Program**

Young Athletes is an inclusive sport and play program for children with and without intellectual disabilities and developmental delays ages 2 - 7 years old. Young Athletes provides children with activities and games that meet their individual skill level and ability levels, while allowing them to play together in a fun and inclusive environment. The program shows that all children should be valued for their talents and abilities. Young Athletes can be used in the preschool or physical education classroom.

## **Whole School Engagement**

### **Choose To Include Week/Anti-bullying/Ability Awareness Fair**

Each year Unified Clubs organize a week of awareness and Unified Sports activities designed to spread the word about different abilities and inclusion. Club members create a theme for each day to promote your club and engage the entire school community if fun sports, educational and social activities.

### **Club Fundraising**

Encourage Play Unified Club members to think of creative fundraising ideas to help cover the costs of activities/materials not funded by this program. Make posters, sell treats, and get your school community and local community involved in supporting your club activities and sports programs.

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### **Cool School Challenge Plunge and Turkey Dash- November, Asbury Park**

Earn your bragging rights - and other cool stuff - freezin or joggin for a reason in the SONJ Cool School Challenge Plunge and Turkey Dash. This is a revenue sharing event designed to help Unified Champion Schools fund their programs. Challenge your school faculty, friends, parents and raise money for your Unified Club.

### **Unified Recess**

This is a great option for elementary schools. Get your students together on the playground during recess and just let them play! It's a natural way to start breaking down barriers and building friendships. Play Unified Club members can organize inclusive activities and stations during recess.

### **Fans in the Stands**

Fans in the Stands cheer on Unified teams and Special Olympics traditional teams. They promote inclusion and encourage students, friends and families to get groups together to make posters, banners or organize pep rallies for the athletes in their schools and communities.

### **Invite a SONJ Athlete Global Messenger**

Sargent Shriver Global Messengers are athletes trained in public speaking who then help spread the message and vision of the Movement, as well as the benefits they have gained by participating in Special Olympics. Global Messengers have proven to be the Movement's most effective spokespeople.

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### Project Description

Please complete the Project Description questions provided below in a WORD document. A copy of the Project Description questions can also be found on <https://www.sonj.org/more-than-sports/unified-champion-schools/apply-funding/>. Once you have completed the Project Description questions, please **SAVE** and **UPLOAD** the file to submit it as part of your application.

**District applicants can complete ONE Project Description document with the specific goals and objectives for EACH SCHOOL that will be uploaded to each online form.**

#### Questions

Below are the Project Description questions you are required to answer. Please use the document found at the link above, or copy and paste the questions below into a WORD document to complete:

1. Question 1 is to be completed on the application form (checkboxes).
2. Identify your Play Unified goals for 2020-2021 and the activities you will implement to achieve them.
3. Briefly describe the special needs population in your school that will be participating as Unified youth leaders and athletes.
4. How do you plan to implement your Unified Club and inclusive youth leadership and what support will you provide your students in carrying out their Unified programs?
5. How will you fulfill the Unified Sports component? (Unified PE, Fitness, Recreation, Competition) What sports will you participate in, what challenges do you anticipate and how will you address them?
6. What is your plan for engaging your whole school? How will you incorporate the Respect Week campaign?
7. Is your school currently involved in a Special Olympics New Jersey program? If so, how?
8. Describe your plan for long-term sustainability. How will you support the Unified Champion School activities when SONJ funding ends?
9. Do you plan on collaborating or playing other schools in your district or area? If so, explain how.
10. What are your plans for fundraising? Will you participate in the Cool School Challenge Plunge?

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## Budget

Please complete the Budget Workbook emailed to you. A copy of the Budget Workbook can also be found on <https://www.sonj.org/more-than-sports/unified-champion-schools/apply-funding/>. Once you have completed the Budget Workbook, please **SAVE** and **UPLOAD** the file to submit it with your application.

### Budget Categories

**Coach Stipends** – We are no longer stipulating \$1,500 for coaching stipends or \$500 Club Adviser stipends. We ask each applicant to work within their school pay structure and rates to determine the appropriate levels between a club/intramural coach and an interscholastic coach for example. When estimating your coaching fees for the program funding, please understand we do not have enough funding to support full coaching fees for any one school to conduct more than one sport.

**Adviser Stipends** – We are no longer stipulating \$500 Club Adviser stipends. We ask each applicant to work within their school pay structure and rates to determine the appropriate levels.

**District Coordinator** – Districts can request up to \$3,000 to cover a district-wide facilitator.

**Transportation** – to and from Unified Sports practices and competitions and Youth Summits or SONJ events. **This does not include transportation to Unified Game Days or non-approved Unified trips.**

**Facility Rental** – for developmental, recreational or competitive Unified Sports, including bowling fee, and youth leadership events.

**Fees** – costs related to running or participating in Unified Sports, officials, NJSIAA event registrations and events directly related to the Unified Club activities.

**Supplies** – club activity and sports supplies; limited at \$500 per school. **No more than \$100 can be allocated toward arts and crafts.**

**T-shirts** – Unified Club shirts can be purchased only for the members. Choose to Include Campaign shirts are provided free of charge by SONJ. **Additional Choose to Include Campaign shirts over 100 will be charged to your funding allocation.** Funds cannot pay for T-shirts for fundraisers or to be sold.

**Equipment** – directly related to your Unified Sports and Inclusive Physical Education program. The funding cannot be used for capital equipment or general school equipment.

**Water/Snacks** – for Unified Sports events and club meetings; all food purchases **MUST** be pre-approved by SONJ.

**Uniforms** – Unified school-based sports only, not to be used for SONJ LTP (Local Training Program) programs. We are not able to reimburse any additional apparel purchases for sweatshirts, sweatpants, etc.

**Program Cost Share** – any contribution your school makes to the Play Unified initiatives including space, maintenance, officials, food, uniforms, t-shirts, equipment, etc. **Please Note: Program Cost Share amount does not impact the Total Amount Requested.**

# Unified Champion Schools 2020-2021 Program Funding Application **OVERVIEW AND GUIDELINES**

**Special  
Olympics**  
New Jersey



## Useful Resources

Special Olympics Unified Schools Website

<https://www.specialolympics.org/our-work/unified-champion-schools>

Special Olympics Elementary School Playbook: A GUIDE FOR GRADES K–5

<https://media.specialolympics.org/resources/community-building/youth-and-school/unified-schools/UCS-Elementary-School-Playbook-2018.pdf>

Special Olympics Middle Level Playbook: A GUIDE FOR GRADES 5 - 8

<https://media.specialolympics.org/resources/community-building/youth-and-school/unified-schools/UCS-Middle-School-Playbook-2018.pdf>

Special Olympics High School Playbook

<https://media.specialolympics.org/resources/community-building/youth-and-school/unified-schools/UCS-High-School-Playbook-2018.pdf>

Special Olympics Unified Physical Education Resources

<https://media.specialolympics.org/resources/community-building/youth-and-school/unified-champion-schools/Unified-Physical-Ed-Resources-Aug-2019.pdf>

Learn. Practice. Play. UNIFIED. Guide to Inclusive Physical Education and Sports Activities

<https://1j538h1sajzp39nmw6le8zcg-wpengine.netdna-ssl.com/wp-content/uploads/2017/10/guide-to-inclusive-physical-education-and-sports-activities.pdf>