

## Why Mentor?

If you are interested in making an indelible difference in the lives of individuals with intellectual disabilities, becoming a Special Olympics Missouri mentor is a unique way to do so.



Athlete Leadership Programs (ALPs) provides training for athletes who wish to expand their role in Special Olympics Missouri beyond the field of competition.

On the field of competition, our athletes learn how to achieve success, joy and acceptance, while Athlete Leadership Programs teach them how to achieve those same goals and feel just as empowered while off the field of competition as respected leaders and spokespeople in their communities.

Throughout Special Olympics, athlete-leaders take on roles and responsibilities from many different ALPs initiatives. They can work as employees of Special Olympics programs, speak on behalf of SOMO as Global Messengers, serve as coaches and volunteers, officiate competitions and represent other athletes and leaders as part of the SOMO Input Council.

So whether you're a special education teacher, a paraprofessional educator or someone who is just ready to get more involved with Special Olympics, you can make a huge difference in our athletes' lives by mentoring them as they look to become leaders in their community.

By signing up, you're agreeing to a one-on-one relationship with our athletes as you two attend up to two ALPs Universities per year and work with them as they complete their practicum for each class they take.

For more information on ALPs University and being a mentor for a SOMO athlete, please visit [www.somo.org](http://www.somo.org) email Brandon Schatsiek at [Schatsiek@somo.org](mailto:Schatsiek@somo.org).

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Athlete Leadership Programs gives our athletes the opportunity to take classes and become leaders off the field of competition, but they need someone to guide them.

***Make a difference in  
our athletes' lives today  
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