

Anchorage East Rotary Club
Small Grants Application

Agency Name & Address
Special Olympics Alaska
3200 Mountain View Dr.
Anchorage, AK 99501

Contact Person
Sarah Arts

Title
President/CEO

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1. What is the dollar amount of your request?

\$3,000.00

2. Please tell us a little about your organization and service mission to the community. You may attach additional sheets or material you have readily available.

Special Olympics Alaska is dedicated to empowering individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities through year-round sports training and competition. Our mission extends beyond athletics—we strive to foster inclusion, build friendships, and enhance life skills through school programs, health initiatives, and community engagement.

We proudly support Unified Champion Schools in more than 80 elementary, middle, and high schools across the state, promoting teamwork and understanding among students of all abilities. Our commitment to health and well-being is reflected in our year-round fitness programs and essential health screenings, which provide vision, hearing, dental, podiatry, general physical exams, and social-emotional wellness checks for Alaskans with disabilities.

For our youngest athletes, ages 2-7, the Young Athletes Program introduces the joy of sports, fundamental movement skills, and social connections, helping children and their families experience the benefits of play, coordination, and inclusion from an early age.

At Special Olympics Alaska, we believe in the power of sports to transform lives and create a more inclusive world—one athlete, one game, and one community at a time.

3. What will the grant funds be used for? Please be as specific as possible (attach extra sheets if necessary)

These grant funds will be used to purchase new team Polo uniforms for the Anchorage Community Program. These uniforms will ensure that all participants have a cohesive, professional appearance, promoting team unity and community pride. The funds will cover the costs of high-quality, durable Polo shirts featuring the program's logo, in various sizes to accommodate all participants. It has been nearly ten years since the program was able to overhaul the team polo. Since that time, there has been significant growth in the number of athletes participating.

Below is a mock-up of the polo:



4. Exactly who will be served by this grant? How many people will benefit?

This grant will directly serve the Special Olympics Alaska athletes and Unified partners of the Anchorage Community Program, including youth and adult members engaged in community sports, outreach events, and team-building activities. Approximately 200 individuals with and without intellectual and developmental disabilities will benefit from the new uniforms, which will help promote inclusivity and team spirit among our participants.

5. Will you be billing anyone for the use of the assets purchased with the grant funds? If so, who?

No, we will not be billing anyone for the uniforms purchased with the grant funds. These uniforms will be provided free of charge to participants as part of their involvement in the Anchorage Community Program, ensuring accessibility for all members regardless of financial status.

6. Why is this money not available or budgeted in your normal annual budget process?

The Anchorage Community Program operates on a limited budget, primarily allocated to essential program expenses such as facility rentals, equipment, and operational costs. While uniforms are a valuable aspect of team identity and cohesion, they are not typically included in our annual budget due to financial constraints. This grant will provide the necessary funding to equip our team with professional uniforms, which we would otherwise be unable to afford.

7. If this is a capital item, how are you going to provide ongoing maintenance?

While team uniforms are not traditional capital items, we will ensure their longevity through proper care and maintenance. Participants will be educated on proper laundering techniques to preserve the quality of the uniforms. Additionally, the program will set aside a small portion of its existing budget for minor repairs or replacements as needed.

8. What effort is the agency putting forth, or willing to put forth, to accomplish this project? Are there "sweat equity" contributions, volunteer contributions or matching funds available?

The Anchorage Community Program is committed to making this project a success. We have volunteers assisting with distribution, sizing, and coordination to ensure each participant receives the appropriate uniform. Additionally, we are exploring local sponsorships and small fundraising efforts to supplement the grant, ensuring that all team members can receive high-quality uniforms.

9. Is this grant sufficient to complete the project? If not, what are your plans to secure the necessary funding?

The grant will cover approximately one-third of the total cost of the new team Polo uniforms. The Anchorage Community Program has allocated reserves to cover the remaining two-thirds of the cost, ensuring that the project can be fully completed without additional fundraising efforts.

10. Are you an "Exempt Organization" as defined by the Internal Revenue Service? If so, under which Code Section?

Yes. We are a 501c3 Organization.

11. If you are an IRS defined "Exempt Organization", when was the last time your organization had an audit? Please attach copy of most current audit.

2023 Audit is attached.

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12. If you are an IRS defined "Exempt Organization", and do not have audited financial statements:
Please attach a copy of the organization's financial statements for the most recent year-end,
and a copy of the most recently filed Form 990 (or 990EZ).

CERTIFICATION:

I certify that the attached grant application and all attachments are true and complete to the best of my knowledge. I have the authority to bind the organization to the Rotary Small Grant rules and, if funded, will do so.

Sarah Antz
Signature

3/28/2025
Date

President/CEO
Title