


# CALLING ALL CHAMPIONS™


## Physical Therapy Community The Special Olympics USA Games need your help!!!

The 2026 USA Games Special Olympics is seeking support from physical therapists and physical therapist assistants at the USA GAMES at the University of Minnesota, June 19 -26, 2026. This event will bring 3,000+ athletes with intellectual disabilities to Minneapolis to compete in 16 sporting events. The following opportunities align with physical therapy skill sets.

### Healthy Athletes Program – Opportunity #1

Since 1997, Special Olympics Healthy Athletes® has provided over 2 million free health screenings and trained nearly 300,000 healthcare professionals to better serve individuals with intellectual disabilities—who often face significant gaps in care. The program includes seven screening areas and offers both essential services to athletes and hands-on training for healthcare providers. Physical therapists and physical therapy assistants play a key role in two disciplines:

 **FUNfitness** focuses on flexibility, strength, balance, and injury prevention through targeted screenings and exercise recommendations.

 **Fit Feet** addresses foot and ankle health, biomechanics, and proper footwear to support mobility and performance. We are currently seeking a volunteer **physical therapist** to assist with **gait evaluations** for Fit Feet—an opportunity to make a meaningful impact in an underserved community.

**Location / Shifts / Licensing** – The Healthy Athletes program will be held at the University of Minnesota’s Health Sciences Education Center on the UMN Campus. The shifts are 4-8 hours in length. Parking, food, and a volunteer polo shift are provided. These roles are screening-based exams and are open to PTs/PTAs with any state license.

#### Days / Hours / Shifts Needed: (First hour is check-in and training)

- Friday, June 19: 12:00 pm to 5 pm (5 hrs.)
- Saturday, June 20: 7:00 am – 2:00 pm (7 hrs.)
- Sunday, June 21: 8:00 am – 2:00 pm & 1:00 pm - 7:00 pm. (6 or 11 hours)
- Monday, June 22: Noon - 5:00 pm & 4:00 pm – 8:00 pm (4/5 hrs. or 8 hrs.)
- Tuesday, June 23: Noon - 5:00 pm & 4:00 pm – 8:00 pm (4/5 hrs. or 8 hrs.)
- Wednesday, June 24: 8:00 am – 2:00 pm & 1:00 pm - 7:00 pm. (6 or 11 hours)
- Thursday, June 25: 8:00 am – 2:00 pm & 1:00 pm - 7:00 pm. (6 or 11 hours)

#### FUNfitness

- **Physical Therapist / Physiotherapist** – For more information and to sign up, [Click Here](#).
- **Physical Therapy Assistant** - For more information and to sign up, [Click Here](#).

#### Fit Feet

- **PT/ PTA/ Physiotherapist**– For more information and to sign up, [Click Here](#).

## Performance & Recovery Stations – Opportunity # 2

In addition to Healthy Athletes, we are seeking physical therapists and physical therapist assistants to volunteer at our **Performance and Recovery Station**. This station supports athletes before and after competition by addressing physical concerns, providing physical therapy, and offering education on preparation and recovery strategies. This is a collaborative, holistic space that includes nutritionists and other professionals to help athletes perform at their best.

There will be three stations: two on the University of Minnesota campus and one at the National Sports Center in Blaine, MN (about 20 minutes north of Minneapolis).

### Days / Hours / Shifts Needed: (First hour is check-in and training)

#### On the U of Minnesota Campus

Saturday, June 20: 1:00 pm – 7:00 pm (6 hrs.)  
Sunday, June 21: 1:00 pm – 7:00 pm (6 hrs.)  
Monday, June 22: 1:00 pm – 7:00 pm (6 hrs.)  
Tuesday, June 23: 1:00 pm – 7:00 pm (6 hrs.)  
Wednesday, June 24: 1:00 pm – 7:00 pm (6 hrs.)  
Thursday, June 25: 1:00 pm – 7:00 pm (6 hrs.)

#### National Sport Center (NSC) - Buses from the U of Minnesota provided.

Sunday, June 21: 10:00 am – 3:00 pm (4 hrs.)  
Monday, June 22: 10:00 am – 3:00 pm (4 hrs.)  
Tuesday, June 23: 10:00 am – 3:00 pm (4 hrs.)  
Wednesday, June 24: 10:00 am – 3:00 pm (4 hrs.)  
Thursday, June 25: 10:00 am – 3:00 pm (4 hrs.)

### To sign up for this opportunity:

**U of Minnesota Athlete Village Stations** – PTs/PTAs, for more information and to sign up, [Click Here](#).

**U of Minnesota Track Station** – PTs / PTAs, for more information and to sign up, [Click Here](#).

**National Sports Center – PTs / PTAs** – For more information and to sign up, [Click Here](#).

For additional information, questions, or if you don't see a role for you, please contact Drew Maurano @ [dmaurano@2026USAGames.org](mailto:dmaurano@2026USAGames.org)

