



**MISSION:**

To provide year-round sports training and athletic competition in a variety of Olympic-type sports for children and adults with an intellectual disability, giving them continuing opportunities to develop physical fitness, demonstrate courage, experience joy and participate in the sharing of gifts, skills and friendship with their families, other Special Olympics athletes and the community.

**HISTORY:**

Founded in 1968

**PARTICIPANTS (per the 2016 census):**

Registered Athletes and Unified Partners: 16,015  
 Coaches: 2,936  
 Competitions: 103

**SUPPORT:**

Recipient of government, corporate and individual funding

**INTERNATIONAL EVENTS:**

- Hosted 1983 Special Olympics World Summer Games

**15 OFFICIAL SPORTS:**

Aquatics	Athletics	Basketball	Bocce
Bowling	Cycling	Equestrian	Flag Football
Football (Soccer)	Golf	Horseshoes	Power Lifting
Softball	Tennis	Volleyball	

**OTHER DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMS:**

Athlete Leadership, Healthy Athletes, Healthy Communities, Unified Champion Schools, Special Olympics Unified Sports, STRIVE, Law Enforcement Torch Run (LETR), Young Athletes

**EXECUTIVE STAFF:**

Mr. John Saye, Board Chair

Mr. John Guzzardo, CEO

[Jguzzardo@laso.org](mailto:Jguzzardo@laso.org)

Mr. Sean Adams, Athlete Representative on the Board of Directors

Ms. Mirenda McCray, Athlete Representative on the Board of Directors

**SPECIAL OLYMPICS LOUISIANA**

1000 East Morris Avenue  
 Hammond, LA, USA, 70403

**PHONE:** 985.345.6644

**FAX:** 985.345.6649

**WEBSITE:** [www.laso.org](http://www.laso.org)