



## A to Z FUNDRAISING GUIDE

### Fundraising Ideas for Team Florida

When it comes to raising funds for Team Florida the opportunities are infinite. The list below provides ideas to get you started.

**A-thons:** Reserve a location (such as your school or office) to hold an "event"-a-thon. All participants then get their friends and family members to make pledges.

**Art Exhibition:** Students produce creative works of art and host a show for parents and friends. Guests are given the change to buy the art pieces.

**Ask Everyone You Meet:** Even if you have sent out emails for online donations, carry an envelope with you so when you talk to people about Special Olympics USA Games you can ask for a donation right there on the spot.

**Auctions:** Auction off desserts, homemade dinners, local artwork, or other creative and fun items.

**Bake Sales:** Hold a Friday bake sale so friends and family have treats for the weekend. Ask everyone at work or school to bring in a baked good to sell during lunch or after hours.

**Bar-B-Que:** Host a BBQ at work or for your neighborhood. Charge an entry fee for anyone who comes. Make it a cook-off! Charge a fee to the participants who are eating.

**Book Sale:** Dust off your old books to sell. Encourage colleagues or friends to clear their bookshelves and contribute!

**Cake Drawing:** Bake cakes, exchange tickets for donations, and raffle off the cake after the event.

**Car Wash:** It's an oldie but goodie! Charge a flat fee for each car you wash.

**Carnation Sale:** Have co-workers or classmates purchase carnations and send them to a special someone.

**Challenges:** Compete for a cause! Challenge another individual or team to raise more money than you.



SPECIAL OLYMPICS  
**USA GAMES**  
MINNESOTA 2026

For additional information, please email [supportteamflorida@sofl.org](mailto:supportteamflorida@sofl.org)

### More Fundraising Ideas for Team Florida

**Coin Drive:** Keep a Special Olympics Florida coin box in high-traffic areas. All change is donated to your fundraising totals. Place containers in each department or classroom. Ask everyone to contribute spare change for a week or a month. Give the winner a prize.

**Dedicate:** Dedicate your personal effort to someone who inspires you. Share your story to inspire others!

**Dog Wash:** Offer a low-cost dog wash for the furry, four-footed members of the community! You can sell refreshments for the dog lovers to enjoy while they wait for their dogs to be bathed, and include some treats or biscuits for the dog.

**Dollar Drive:** Get your campus or workplace to donate \$1.00. Come up with creative ways to get 100% participation.

**EBay:** Sell old items on eBay (or Facebook Marketplace) and have the proceeds go towards your USA Games page!

**Email Signature:** Insert the hyperlink to your fundraising page on your email signature. Explain that you are raising funds for the USA Games and encourage contacts to make a donation on your page!

**Fundraise with Facebook:** Post the link to your fundraising page on a Facebook post, or send a direct message to all your Facebook friends asking for their support.

**Funny Photo Contest:** Have a funny photo contest and ask for submissions from your group. Setup pictures like an art show. Have the pictures framed or matted and include a small bio of the artist. In order to raise money, make it a juried art show. Place a jar, can, or box in front of each picture in which people can place coins or bills to vote for their favorites. Leave the display set up for a week or a long weekend.

**Garage Sale:** Clean your attic, garage, and basement and donate money raised to your team page.

**Gift Wrapping:** Around the holidays, offer to wrap gifts for your friends in exchange for a donation. Some retailers will let you even gift wrap in their store.



### More Fundraising Ideas for Team Florida

**Golf Tournament:** Plan a golf tournament and charge a fee for a foursome.

**Help the Environment:** Volunteer your time collecting recyclables from the community, then turn them in at a recycling center and donate the proceeds.

**Ice Cream Social:** Host an ice cream social for your group's next fundraiser. Sell the ice cream plus an additional amount for each topping option.

**Jewelry Party:** Host a jewelry party at your house with a portion of the proceeds benefitting your World Games donation!

**Karaoke Competition:** Charge a fee for coworkers/friends to sing a song.

**Letter Writing Campaign:** Write letters to your friends, family, and local businesses to let them know what you are doing and ask them to make a donation. Don't forget to follow up your letter with a phone call and an email!

**Matching Gifts:** Ask your donors if their company has a matching gift program. It's an easy way to double your donations.

**Mow a Lawn:** Check with neighbors and friends to see if you can mow their lawn for a donation!

**Percentage of Sales:** Ask a store or restaurant to give a percentage of one day's sales to Special Olympics Florida. Publicize the store's offers.

**Pie-in-the-Face Stand:** Teachers and faculty volunteer to participate and then students pay with a donation for each pie tin filled with whipped cream.

**Publicity:** Publicize your participation in your company, school or neighborhood newsletter!



### More Fundraising Ideas for Team Florida

**Special Events:** If you have a birthday, anniversary, or other special event approaching, host a party and ask guests to provide a donation to your USA Games page in lieu of gifts.

**Spirit Chain:** Create a paper chain in your favorite colors with links sold for \$1.00 each. Decorate the hallways, foyer, library, cubicles, etc. Create a spirit of competition by having classes or departments create their own chains and longest one wins a prize (or bragging rights). At the end of the competition, link all the chains together to show your effort.

**Sponsors:** Ask local businesses or your company to sponsor you. Be creative and find ways to advertise their support!

**Sports Tournament:** Host a basketball, softball, soccer, or kickball tournament. Charge a flat fee per team that participates. For a little extra revenue, be sure to sell some snacks on the day of the tournament.

**Student/Teacher Sports Event:** Home football and basketball games attract a lot of school fans. At halftime, students and teachers can compete in games or other sporting events. Example: students and teachers can purchase the opportunity to compete in a half court shooting competition or kicking a field goal to win a prize if they make it!

**Teacher Challenge:** Select a few teachers to participate in the competition. Students vote with spare change for the teacher who must "take the challenge." The teacher with the most votes is challenged to take a pie to the face, dress up like a character for the day, host a pizza lunch, wear a funny wig or anything to make people laugh.

**Wacky Hat Day:** Ask classmates or coworkers to make a few dollar donations to wear their wackiest hat to work/school that day.

**Walk-a-Thon:** Participants ask friends and family to sponsor them by pledging to make small donations for every lap they complete. Walkers keep track of their laps and then sponsors can donate accordingly! 50 walkers x 10 sponsors each x \$1/lap x 15 laps per walker = \$7,500!

