



[www.coolschoolfl.org](http://www.coolschoolfl.org)

Polar Plunge

# Cool Schools Plunge Team Captain Toolkit

**Special  
Olympics**  
Florida



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## What Is Polar Plunge?

Polar Plunge provides a unique opportunity for individuals, organizations, schools, and businesses to support Special Olympics Florida athletes by jumping into the frigid waters of the Aquatica, SeaWorld's Waterpark™ Orlando. The event will take place on Saturday, February 11, 2017, and plungers will be required to raise a minimum of \$100 in order to participate. Plungers who raise additional funds, will earn extra incentives! Events like Polar Plunge help support tens of thousands of Special Olympics Florida athletes across the state. Visit [www.plungeFL.com](http://www.plungeFL.com) for more information.

## What Is the Cool Schools Plunge?

The Cool Schools Plunge gives schools an opportunity to plunge together on their very own wave! High schools across the state are challenged to recruit the biggest team, raise the most money, and plunge on **Saturday, February 11<sup>th</sup>, 2017**.

## How to Join the Cool School Challenge

1. To form a team, visit [www.CoolSchoolFL.org](http://www.CoolSchoolFL.org) and select 'Register Here.'
2. Read and select 'I agree' on the Release and Waiver of Liability.
3. Select 'Start a Team' and create a Team name, Fundraising Goal, Recruiting Goal, and select 'Continue.' **Please note: These items, as well as the names of the team captains, can be changed at any time. Please email [plunge@sofl.org](mailto:plunge@sofl.org) with any necessary changes.**
4. Create a username and password for your online account and select 'Continue.'
5. Complete the registration information and select 'Continue.'
6. Recruit your students, co-workers, families, and friends to join your team and help raise more funds for Special Olympics Florida, winning you more cool prizes!

For help forming your team, contact:

[plunge@sofl.org](mailto:plunge@sofl.org)

or 352-243-9536 x506

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## How to Get Your School Involved

It takes courage, bravery, and a little bit of crazy to be a Cool Schools Plunger.

Below are some ideas to rally your school to help support Special Olympics Florida!

- Advertise the Cool Schools Plunge around your school by displaying customizable plunge posters.
- Host a Cool Schools Plunge booth. Recruit team members or donations by handing out Plunge materials.
- Host an assembly to inform students about the event and get them excited! We can coordinate representatives from Special Olympics Florida to attend.
- Ask for support by posting your team information on the school's website or intranet with a link to the team page.
- Email students information about the Cool Schools Challenge and instructions on how to join the team.
- **Social Media: use Facebook (#coolschoolsplunge), Twitter, Instagram (#coolschoolsfl), blogs, etc. to recruit team members and ask for donations.**
- **Use the Cool Schools Plunge as a class project or as credit for required Service Learning hours.**
- **Make it part of your morning school announcements.**
- Remember, your team does not need to consist only of students. Invite your teachers, coaches, advisors, family, and friends to join in on the fun!
- Have principals, administrators, teachers or school resource officers challenge the students to reach a certain fundraising goal. If the students reach their goals, reward them by plunging with them, getting a pie (or lots of pies!) in the face, wearing a crazy outfit, trading parking spots for a week, or other creative ideas!



## Event Day Information

- Registration opens at 10:00 A.M. Upon arriving at Aquatica, your bus/vehicle will be directed to the parking area. Your team will be greeted and directed to the Registration Area. As the team captain, please collect signed waivers and any donations from all Plungers on your team BEFORE you get off the bus. Bring them to the registration table.
- Clearly mark Plunger names and team information on all donations and forms to be submitted. To make registration as efficient as possible, please only have yourself and one or two helpers approach the registration tables.
- Each participant raising \$100 or more will receive a Cool Schools Plunge shirt and a complimentary lunch onsite. Lunch, as well as the shirt order, is based on registered plungers on the [www.plungefl.org](http://www.plungefl.org) website. Meals will be available for pick-up starting at 10:30a.m. For those visiting the park who are not registered as Plungers, there will be food available for purchase.
- Please make sure your student Plungers have brought a parent/guardian signed waiver before allowing them to participate.

## Helpful Hints for First Timers

- Bring a dry change of clothes.
- Bring your costume.
- Wear your plunge suit underneath the clothes you arrive in.
- Bring a towel.

## Plunge Tools

Enclosed are tools to help make this experience fun and easy. All of these forms (and more) can be found at [www.plungefl.org](http://www.plungefl.org). Need something and don't see it? Contact [plunge@sofl.org](mailto:plunge@sofl.org) and we will create it for you!



## Bus Request Form

***The school team that fundraises together, travels together! We want to make sure your Cool School isn't left behind, so Special Olympics Florida is going the extra mile to cover the cost of any school team traveling together on a bus from their school!***

In order to cover bus fees, please follow the guidelines below and return this form to Special Olympics Florida with the paid invoice:

- A minimum of 40 students preregistered online and assigned to a team
- Each team must raise a minimum of \$4,000 per bus (Individually, that's \$100 per person)
- The bus must be acquired and arranged by a school representative. (To/From transportation on Plunge day will be coordinated between this representative and his/her chosen bus company).
- Bus Request Form and paid invoice for bus must be submitted to Special Olympics Florida no later than 4 weeks prior to the event. The team must meet the above fundraising and recruitment requirements at this time.
- Special Olympics Florida will cover the cost per bus up to \$500 in the form of reimbursement to the school. Each school must first reserve and pay for transportation arrangements with their chosen bus company.

Contact Name: \_\_\_\_\_

School Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Team Name: \_\_\_\_\_

School Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

The Cool Schools Plunge does **not** require bus passes to enter the park. Your bus will be directed where to park upon entering. ***Parking is available on site for 2 spectators wishing to come watch the Plunge.***

**Mail bus request forms & PAID bus company invoices to:  
Special Olympics Florida Attn: Keirra Tillery  
1915 Don Wickham Drive, Clermont, FL 34711  
or fax to 352-243-9568 or email to [plunge@sofl.org](mailto:plunge@sofl.org)**



# Donation Form

## COOL SCHOOLS PLUNGE

To register day-of, simply bring this sheet and your donations to the event

To pre-register, visit [www.coolschoolfl.com](http://www.coolschoolfl.com) or call 352-243-9536 x 506

Feel free to copy this form to add additional donors

Title: \_\_\_\_\_ First: \_\_\_\_\_ Last: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_ City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ DOB: \_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_

Team Name: \_\_\_\_\_ School Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Shirt Size (circle one): S M L XL XXL XXXL  
(Size ONLY guaranteed with pre-registration)

Total Raised \$ \_\_\_\_\_

DONOR NAME	ADDRESS	PHONE	AMOUNT
1.			
2.			
3.			
4.			
5.			
6.			
7.			
8.			
9.			
10.			

Participant Signature or Parent/Guardian Signature (if under the age of 18)

Date

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## Sample Donation Request Letter/Email

Dear [Insert Name]:

I am writing to ask for your help. On February 11, 2017, I have committed to grin and “bear” it for the athletes of Special Olympics Florida by taking a chilly dip into the wave pool Aquatica, SeaWorld's Waterpark™ Orlando alongside hundreds of other warm-hearted people. I will be plunging as part of the 2017 Cool Schools challenge with my school,

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I know you are probably getting cold just thinking about it! But the cold that I will feel is temporary and the positive impact this will have on the lives of thousands of citizens with intellectual disabilities will last a lifetime.

I have set a personal fundraising goal of \$[insert amount], and I need your help to reach it! I am not asking you to take the Plunge alongside, but instead, I am requesting you make a donation to SOFL on my behalf. Any amount would be appreciated. It all goes to a wonderful cause and every little bit gets me that much closer to my goal.

In order to support my Plunge, please visit [insert TEAM PAGE URL ] to donate by credit card or make a check payable to Special Olympics Florida and return it to me in the envelope I have provided, or mail it directly to Special Olympics Florida at 1915 Don Wickham Drive, Attn: Cool Schools 2017 / Clermont, FL 34711. If you do it this way, please be sure to include my name in the memo area of the check so that the staff will know where to credit the contribution.

You may also visit [www.coolschoolfl.com](http://www.coolschoolfl.com) and click “Sponsor a Participant.” Type in my name, which will take you to my personal fundraising page, where you can make a donation online via credit or debit card.

If you want to learn more about this wacky winter event, visit [www.coolschoolfl.com](http://www.coolschoolfl.com) to find out all the chilly details. Think warm thoughts for me as February 11<sup>th</sup> approaches.

Thank you!  
[Plunger Name]

