

SOAR

Special Opportunities
Available in Recreation



FALL 2023

REGISTRATION BEGINS AUG. 10TH!

CELEBRATING 50 YEARS ALL YEAR LONG!



Special Opportunities Available In Recreation

Office Address: 109 E. Olive St., Bloomington, Illinois 61701

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(309) 434-2260

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What is SOAR?

SOAR is a community therapeutic recreation program serving individuals unable to successfully participate in traditional recreation programs. Leisure, social and developmental skills are emphasized to promote the highest level of recreation participation possible. SOAR is jointly sponsored by the City of Bloomington and Town of Normal Parks and Recreation Departments.

Most individuals with disabilities are eligible to participate in SOAR activities. Persons from youth to adults who are in special education classes, workshops, nursing homes or who have leisure needs not met by traditional recreation programs are eligible. This includes individuals with developmental, physical or learning disabilities; sensory, genetic or behavior disorders; autism or emotional difficulties.

Mission Statement

The SOAR program exists to maintain and enhance the quality of life for individuals with disabilities through comprehensive, specialized recreation programs, activities and special events.

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Americans With Disabilities Act

Special Opportunities Available in Recreation (SOAR) will comply with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), which prohibits discrimination in the provision of services, programs or facilities to individuals with disabilities. SOAR will make reasonable accommodations in recreation programs to enable participation by an individual with a disability who meets essential eligibility requirements for that program. The ADA requires that recreation programs offered by SOAR be available in the most integrated setting appropriate for each individual. Call (309) 434-2260 if you have any questions about the SOAR policy regarding the ADA or believe you have been unfairly discriminated against by SOAR.

Questions/Information

Please contact the SOAR office with any questions regarding eligibility, registration procedures, scholarships, transportation or the SOAR program in general at (309) 434-2260. TDD for the hearing impaired at (309) 829-5115. Fax: (309) 434-2483. Website address is www.BloomingtonParks.org/soar. Hotline: (309) 434-2386.

Special Information

Inclusive Programs

SOAR recognizes that every individual with special needs and abilities does not always require a SOAR program. The SOAR staff are available to assist and advise participants concerning appropriate placement in SOAR, Bloomington and/or Normal Parks and Recreation Department programs. SOAR staff will contact the appropriate recreation department staff and work with the instructor to assure the participant a smooth transition if they wish to be integrated into a recreation department program.

Full-Time Staff

Holly Polley, CTRS - Program Manager
hpolley@cityblm.org

Please reach out to Holly with any questions about the classes, programs and events.

Program Legend



= Door to Door
Transportation

(Transportation details are located
on the inside back cover)



= Participant
will need to
bring money to program

Seasonal & Part-Time Staff

SOAR is fortunate to have a number of qualified and talented seasonal and part-time staff. Thank you to the following Summer session staff for their continued support, dedication and fine work!

| | |
|-------------------|-----------------|
| Eliza Bruemmer | Miranda Henson |
| Taylor Burlingame | Randi Meyer |
| Beth Clark | Ariel Miller |
| Sally Clark | Kelsey Milligan |
| Katie Clothier | Rachael Minter |
| Ritchie D'Costa | Larry Quanstrom |
| Sharon D'Costa | Maddie Rankin |
| Kim Denton | Bethany Reeser |
| Doug Dowell | Eric Ritter |
| Holly Elgin | Mark Rutenbeck |
| Michele Evans | Carsyn Seeley |
| Peja Gant | Julie Smith |
| Bailey Graunke | Glen Wetzel |
| Ella Haynes | Kim Workman |

Attire at SOAR Programs

Participants should dress comfortably for all programs and special events. Please keep in mind what the weather is like, if the program will be held inside or outside and what the program will involve. Wear clothes that can get dirty and stained to all craft and cooking programs. Sometimes accidents happen and new/good clothes can get ruined! Dress for activity and comfortable movement in all Special Olympics, sports and exercise programs. Athletic shoes and athletic clothing are required. Do not wear blue jeans to any sports programs or practices! Special attire requirements are often suggested in memos sent out for special events.

Volunteers in Action

SOAR uses a wide variety of volunteers to assist in weekly programs and special events. Volunteers help with program activities and events and work closely with participants to provide an enjoyable and quality leisure experience. Past volunteers have been community residents, college students and community service groups. Thank you to all the individuals who helped make the Summer program session a success by volunteering their time to assist with one or more programs. SOAR is currently accepting volunteers for Summer programs. If you are interested in volunteering, please call (309) 434-2260.

Medication Dispensing

SOAR staff may dispense medication to participants during extended programs and trips. In order for SOAR staff to do this, a parent/guardian will need to complete a medication dispensing form and complete a dispensing procedure each time medication is needed. SOAR staff may not perform an injection or any other medically or physically invasive procedure. Please call the SOAR staff at (309) 434-2260 if you have any questions or would like a copy of any of these forms: permission for medication dispensing, medication dispensing procedures and invasive procedure policies.

Photo Policy

On occasion, SOAR staff may photograph or videotape participants at programs, special events and facilities. These photos are for SOAR use only and may be used in publications, brochures, Facebook, pamphlets, flyers or video productions. If you do not want your photo published contact Holly.

Insurance

Individual accident and medical insurance for program participants is not provided by SOAR, Bloomington or Normal Parks and Recreation Departments.

Staff Ratio

SOAR currently staffs most programs with one staff to every four participants. If a participant will need more assistance or won't be able to participate within this structure, please let staff know at registration so appropriate staffing may be secured (*if possible*). Please note in brochure write ups any exceptions to this 1:4 ratio.

Code of Conduct:

Participant Guidelines

Equal Access - No participant shall on the basis of race, gender, creed, national origin or disability be denied equal access to programs, activities, services or benefits or be limited in the exercise of any right, privilege, advantage or opportunity.

Behavior - Participants are expected to exhibit appropriate behavior at all times. The following guidelines have been developed to make SOAR programs safe and enjoyable for all participants. Additional rules may be developed for particular programs as deemed necessary by staff. Participants shall:

- Show respect to all participants and staff.
- Refrain from using foul language.
- Refrain from causing bodily harm to other participants or staff.
- Show respect for equipment, supplies and facilities.

Discipline - A positive approach will be used. SOAR reserves the right to dismiss a participant. **Each situation will be evaluated on its own merit.**

Late Pick-Up Policy

Please double check the pick-up time and be prompt! Program instructors would appreciate your consideration because they have additional work responsibilities after the program and sometimes have another program to lead.

Families/staff of participants who are not picked up promptly will be sent a letter the first time to remind them of this concern. If the situation happens again, a late fee will be assessed. After a 5-minute grace period, a \$5 fee will be charged for every 15 minutes or portion thereafter.

Registration for other programs will not be accepted until all outstanding late fees are paid.

Special Thanks to Our Volunteers who helped with Summer Programs

Bryse Boester
Chase Boester
Zach Burlingame
David Campos
Maxwell Cekander
Jerry Curry
Stuart Darragh
Kyle Eades
Faith Lutheran Church
Darla Goodlick
Todd Haynes
Greg Hayward
Joe Heaser
Rob Kelley
Brian Lahr
Courtney Lahr
Audrey McWhorter
Matthew Newell
Buffy Ryan
Dennis Sapp
Verlinda Sapp
Sam Walker
Barb Wells
Jamie Wielgopolan
Dee Wilson
Izzy Wyskiel

Paperwork...Paperwork...

"You want me to fill out this entire form?" Have you ever said or thought this? Most of us have! The demand for information and paperwork is tremendous in our society today. While our initial reaction is sometimes frustration, we need to step back and consider why information is requested. SOAR asks that an annual information form be completed, with a seasonal sign off that all information is still correct. Why ask the questions and why persist in acquiring updated information? Listed below are some of the reasons:

- We take our responsibility for participants seriously.
- We care about each person's health and safety.
- We care that each person's physical, emotional, social and developmental needs are being met.
- We want each person to feel satisfaction from program involvement.

Asking for information does not guarantee personal success or safety, but the information is invaluable as we do our best to provide safe and satisfying leisure activities. We thank you for taking the time to provide the requested information.

Cell Phone Policy

SOAR requests that participants do not bring cell phones to program unless there is an emergency situation they need to be aware of or if they need to call for a ride when the program ends. Participants are not to use their phone during programs and are asked to keep their cell phone in a pocket, purse, bag, etc. during the entire program. SOAR can't be held responsible if a participant loses his or her phone. If a participant uses a cell phone during a program or the phone becomes a distraction to the participant, SOAR staff will hold the phone for the duration of the program. The phone will be returned when the participant leaves. This policy will be enforced for the respect of other participants and staff during a program.

Participant Expectations

SOAR provides healthy community leisure opportunities for individuals with disabilities. While participating in our programs, we stress socialization skills, appropriate behavior and personal appearance. For the dignity and acceptance of individuals with disabilities, and for their overall self-esteem and enjoyment at community outings, the staff has several expectations of participants. We ask that you assist us in fulfilling these basic guidelines. The participant guidelines were developed for the betterment of our participants, their self-esteem and normalization.

Please dress for all programs in clean clothing that is appropriate for the specific activity. Participants should be clean and display good hygiene skills.

Program Times

SOAR staff and instructors are at the facility for the designated program time only. Individuals providing transportation for participants should make drop-offs and pick-ups at the listed times. Please do not leave a participant at program/program site unless there is a staff present. We know that emergencies arise, but try to let staff know if you will be early or late!

Parent Observation Guidelines

Parents are encouraged to leave the program area during events so participants can give their full attention to the instructor. Thank you.

Check Out Our Website

www.bloomingtonparks.org/soar



Follow us on Facebook

www.facebook.com/cityblmSOAR

Program Holidays

In observation of the following holidays, the office will be closed and there will be no programs held on that day.

Nov. 10 - Labor Day

Nov. 23 & 24 - Thanksgiving

Jan. 1 - New Year's Day

Jan. 15 - Martin Luther King Jr. Day



TRAINING PROGRAMS

**Purpose of SOAR
Special Olympics Training
Programs:**

To provide eligible individuals 8 years of age or older from the Bloomington/Normal area with quality training programs that will prepare them for area, district, regional and/or state competition in a variety of Special Olympics sports on a year round basis.

**Requirements to
Participate in SOAR
Special Olympics Training
Programs:**

Individuals who meet Special Olympics eligibility requirements and wish to participate in a SOAR Special Olympics training program must complete the SOAR registration procedure for that program. In addition, Special Olympics Illinois Athlete Medical Form, valid through the entire sport's season must be on file with SOAR before practice begins.

**Expectations For
SOAR Special Olympics
Training Programs:**

Athletes participating in a SOAR Special Olympics training program must meet the minimum requirements of training in that sport in order to participate in competition. These requirements will include participation in the minimum number of required training sessions for that sport at a level which is considered appropriate for the sport and the athlete.

Special Olympics Bocce

SOAR will be sponsoring Special Olympics traditional bocce and unified bocce training programs. Athletes participating in this training program will prepare for competition in singles, doubles and/or team bocce. Registration and a valid Special Olympics Application for Participation (medical form) valid through October 2023 must be on file at the SOAR office by Friday, August 18 to participate. Partners must have a Unified Partner Application and a Class A Registration application completed and on file at the Special Olympics Illinois office by August 18.

Athletes and partners that meet the training requirements of this program will participate in a regional competition Saturday, October 14 in Mattoon. Athletes and partners who receive a gold medal at the regional competition become eligible to participate at the Special Olympics Illinois Summer Games that will be held at Illinois State University June 7 – 9, 2024. (Anyone that advances to Summer Games will need to have an SOILL Medical Form valid through June 15, 2024). Athletes advancing to Summer Games will have additional practices on Wednesdays, May 29 & June 5; Individuals training in this program will not have the option to compete in aquatics, athletics, powerlifting or soccer.

TRADITIONAL BOCCE

Who: Ages 10 and older
When: Wednesdays August 23 – October 11, 5:30 pm – 6:30 pm
Where: O’Neil Park, softball field
Cost: \$40
Limit: Minimum 4, Maximum 8

UNIFIED BOCCE

Who: Ages 10 and older, ideally with partner
When: Wednesdays August 23 - October 11, 5:30 pm – 6:30 pm
Where: O’Neil Park, softball field
Cost: \$40
Limit: Minimum 4, Maximum 12

Special Olympics Snowshoeing

This program is great for maintaining fitness during the winter months. Athletes that can walk or run and like being outside during cool, brisk weather will have a great time learning and practicing the skills needed for snowshoeing. Fundamental skills such as equipment use, proper strides, and fall recovery will be introduced. Skill development, lead-up activities and competition preparation will all be a part of this training program. This is a Special Olympics sports training program. Registration and a valid Special Olympics Application for Participation (medical form) good through February 4, 2024, must be on file at the SOAR office by Wednesday, Sept. 20 to participate. Individuals who successfully complete this program will be eligible to compete in a Region Competition December 9, 2023 (tentative) in Mendota. Athletes that receive a gold medal/1st place finish will be eligible to compete in the Special Olympics Illinois State Winter Games held February 6 - 8, 2024, at Eagle Ridge Resort in Galena. Additional practices will be held January 20, 27 and Feb. 3 for those who advance to the Winter Games.

Who: Ages 12 and over
When: Saturdays, October 7 – December 2
 (no practice on November 25)
 9:30 am – 10:30 am
Where: Ewing Park II
Cost: \$40
Limit: Minimum 4, Maximum 12



Special Olympics

Special Olympics Basketball

Athletes with basic motor and cognitive skills appropriate for basketball team play and competition are eligible for this program. Emphasis will be on fundamental skills, game knowledge, and sportsmanship. This is a Special Olympics sports training program. A valid Special Olympics Application for Participation (medical form) good through March 2024 must be on file at the SOAR office by Friday, October 27 to participate. Individuals who successfully complete this program will be eligible to compete in the Special Olympics Basketball District G Tournament that will be held January 21, 2024 (tentatively). A minimum of three games will be scheduled for each SOAR basketball team prior to early January. Teams that advance to the State Basketball Tournament (March 8 - 10, 2024) will have additional practices scheduled in February and March. **PLEASE NOTE THE PLAYER ASSESSMENT NIGHT ON MONDAY AUGUST 28.**

Who: Ages 12 and over

When: Monday, August 28, 5:30 pm - 7:30 pm - All registered must attend the skills assessment scheduled during this time to determine team placement. Regular Practices then follow: Tuesdays or Thursdays, as assigned, 5:30 pm - 7:00 pm or 7:00 pm - 8:30 pm, November 7 or 9 - January 16 or 18 (no practices the week of 11/20). Each team will have games 12/29 or 12/30 (Ron Knisley Memorial Shoot Out).

Where: Lincoln Leisure Center, gym

Cost: \$40

Limit: Minimum 10; Maximum 48



Special Olympics Powerlifting

This is a Special Olympics competition training program for athletes. Registration and a valid Special Olympics Application for Participation (medical) valid through June 2024 must be on file at the SOAR office by Friday, January 5, 2024, to participate. Practices are held at the Bloomington Normal Barbell Club.

Athletes will train to compete in the squat, dead lift and bench press. Team members who have completed the training requirements of this program will be eligible to participate in the region event held in March 2024 in Bloomington. Athletes who receive a gold medal at the Region qualifier will be eligible for the Special Olympics Illinois Summer Games at Illinois State University June 7 – 9, 2024. Athletes advancing to Summer Games will have additional training sessions scheduled later. Only athletes that have been training with BN Barbell Club will be eligible to participate in this program.



Individuals training in this sport will not have the option to compete in Athletics, Bocce, Swimming or Soccer.

Who: Ages 12 and older

When: Practice times to be scheduled with coaches at BN Barbell Club

Where: BN Barbell Club

Cost: \$40 to BN Barbell Club

Limit: Minimum 4; Maximum 8



SOAR Special Olympics Pizza and Karaoke Night

Celebrate the accomplishments of SOAR's Special Olympics athletes for the second half of this year (July - December). SOAR will provide pizza, water, and salad. After dinner, a brief program honoring athletes who participated in the following sports will follow: Softball, Unified Golf, Bowling, Unified Tennis, and all Volleyball programs. Each person wanting to attend must register individually.

Who: Athletes, partners, their families, and anyone who wants to recognize our SOAR athletes for their achievements.

When: Friday, December 8
6:00 pm – 8:30 pm

Where: Miller Park Pavilion, Main Level

Cost: \$4 per person

Limit: No limit but MUST pre-register!



Special Olympics Competition Dates:

September 24
Volleyball Qualifier, Decatur

October 7
Sectional Bowling, Peoria

October 14
Region Bocce, Mattoon

October/November TBA
MedFest, Special Olympics Headquarters
Normal

October 21 - 22
Fall Games (Volleyball), Rockford Harlem

December 2
State Bowling, Peoria

December 9 tentative
Region Snowshoeing, Mendota

Ron Knisley Memorial Shoot Out
Tournament December 29 & 30
Illinois Wesleyan University

January 21, 2024 (tentative)
District Basketball, Bloomington
Illinois Wesleyan University

February 6-8, 2024
State Winter Games, Galena

March 8 - 10, 2024
State Basketball, Bloomington and Normal

June 7 – 9, 2024
State Summer Games, Normal

Sports & Fitness



Recreational Bowling

Here's your chance to bowl just for fun. No competition, no stress, and no hurry. Participants will be assigned to lanes and bowl two games during the scheduled program time. This is the SOAR bowling program where socialization is a part of the game!

- Who:** Individuals aged 10 and up who can bowl two games independently or with ramp. We do NOT use bumpers.
- When:** Mondays, September 11 – November 27
10:00 am – 11:00 am OR
4:00 pm - 5:00 pm
- Where:** Pheasant Lanes, Bloomington
- Cost:** \$84 payable to Pheasant Lanes (lane fees) and \$15 payable to SOAR (registration fee)
- Limit:** Minimum 10; Maximum 30

Cardio Fitness

Get fit with SOAR. This program will focus on exercises designed to get our heart rate up and improve cardiovascular endurance. Participants will complete a variety of exercises each week as well as participate in health-related educational activities. Activities will be geared to the health level of each individual with a target goal of improving health, fitness, and well-being.

- Who:** Ages 12 and older
- When:** Mondays, September 11 – November 27
6:15 pm – 7:15 pm OR
7:30 pm – 8:30 pm
- Where:** Lincoln Leisure Center, Rooms 202/205, gym
- Cost:** \$36
- Limit:** Minimum 6; Maximum 12

Seat to SOAR

Get off your seat and soar with the SOAR walk/run club! This program encourages the lifetime fitness activities of walking and running. By using a progressive training program and walk/run mentors, you will be able to increase fitness and endurance at your own pace. The ultimate goal of this session is to be ready to independently enter one of the many walk/run events in the area such as the Thanksgiving Turkey Trot in Bloomington!

- Who:** Ages 12 and older
- When:** Tuesdays, September 12 – October 17
5:00 pm – 6:00 pm
- Where:** White Oak Park
- Cost:** \$18
- Limit:** Minimum 4, Maximum 12



Yoga with Vanessa

Spend a peaceful hour stretching and meditating with our happiest friend, Vanessa. She will teach you different poses, how to stretch appropriately, and how to quiet yourself from the inside out. This will be a beginner's class, but all are welcome. Chair yoga practices can also be adapted/included as needed.

- Who:** Ages 12 and older
- When:** Wednesdays, September 6 – September 27
5:30 pm – 6:15 pm
- Where:** Miller Park Pavilion Main Floor
- Cost:** \$50
- Limit:** Minimum 4, Maximum 12

Foot Golf

Kicking! Walking! Chatting! Social Exercise! Try your foot at a great sport, while enjoying the beautiful fall days out at Weibring Golf Course. One good leg is all you need to be a part of this game! This will be a 4 week "league". Unified Partners and friends are welcome to join you on the course.

- Who:** Ages 8 and up
- When:** Sundays, September 17 – October 8
3:30 pm – 5:00 pm
- Where:** Weibring Golf Course at ISU
- Cost:** \$20
- Limit:** Minimum 4, Maximum 16

Sports & Fitness



Dance to SOAR I

Spend an hour dancing your way to fitness! Get your heart rate up and get your whole body working as you move to the tunes. No slow dance romance here, this is a workout!

Who: Ages 12 and older
When: Wed., Oct. 11 – Nov. 1
7:00 pm – 8:00 pm
Where: Lincoln Leisure Center,
Room 207
Cost: \$16
Limit: Minimum 4; Maximum 12

Open Gym II

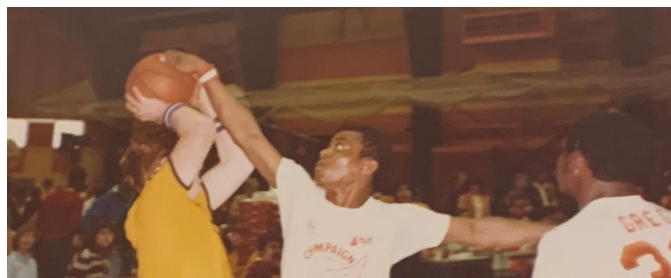
Come and play or shoot some hoops. This will be an unstructured but supervised program. Basketballs will be provided. Participants must wear athletic shoes and have a registration form on file with SOAR to participate. Participants may come for part or all of the scheduled program time. “Drop ins” welcome!

Who: Ages 12 and older
When: Wednesdays, January 24 – February 14
6:00 pm - 8:00 pm
Where: Lincoln Leisure Center, gym
Cost: \$8 (or \$2/night drop in)
Limit: Minimum 6; Maximum 15

Dance to SOAR II

Spend an hour dancing your way to fitness! Get your heart rate up and get your whole body working as you move to the tunes. No slow dance romance here, this is a workout!

Who: Ages 12 and older
When: Wednesdays, January 3 – January 24
7:00 pm – 8:00 pm
Where: Lincoln Leisure Center, Room 207
Cost: \$16
Limit: Minimum 4; Maximum 12



Open Gym I

Come and play or shoot some hoops. This will be an unstructured but supervised program. Basketballs will be provided. Participants must wear athletic shoes and have a registration form on file with SOAR to participate. Participants may come for part or all of the scheduled program time. “Drop ins” welcome!

Who: Ages 12 and older
When: Wednesdays, September 13 – October 25
6:00 pm - 8:00 pm
Where: Lincoln Leisure Center, gym
Cost: \$14 (or \$2/night drop in)
Limit: Minimum 6; Maximum 15

Walk the Zoo

Here’s a great opportunity to get your steps in for the day, with a beautiful view of the Miller Park Zoo. Feel free to register a walking partner too! We’ve mapped a course and will walk the entire zoo with a few stops to check out the animals and grab some water and some pics! Be sure to wear your walking shoes and bring a water bottle.

Who: Ages 14 and older
When: Thursdays, September 21 - October 26
9:00 am - 10:00 am
Where: Meet at the front entrance to Miller Park Zoo
Cost: \$20
Limit: Minimum 4; Maximum 8

SOAR Sensory Skate

We're back on the ice! This program will introduce you to basic skills in ice skating. No prior experience is necessary. This program is specially adapted for individuals with disabilities to learn introductory ice-skating techniques, learn balance and feel comfortable on the ice. Skate rental is included in the program fee. Be sure to wear long pants and layers. This program incorporates the use of several volunteers so that each skater or pair of skaters has an assistant on the ice.

- Who:** Ages 8 and older
- When:** Sundays, September, 10 - October 29
2:00 pm - 2:30 pm
- Where:** Bloomington Ice Center
- Cost:** \$48
- Limit:** Minimum 3; Maximum 10

Martial Arts

In this class we will study Bruce Lee's Jun Fan kick boxing/Jeet Kune Do. We will also explore Dog Brothers Martial Arts focusing on bilateral movement and the coordination of the upper and lower body. Additionally, we will delve into Yoga movement for increased strength, balance and flexibility.

No previous martial arts experience is required for this class. Guru Terry and friends will lead this class.

- Who:** Ages 15 and older
- When:** Tuesdays, September 5 – November 7
5:30 pm – 6:30 pm
- Where:** Lincoln Leisure Center, room 205
- Cost:** \$80
- Limit:** Minimum 6; Maximum 12

**REGISTER EARLY,
CLASSES FILL UP FAST!**

Volunteer at the

Midwest Food Bank

Dates/Times TBD
Contact Holly Polley at
hpolley@cityblm.org
if you are interested
in volunteering.



Cultural Arts

Fall String Art

In this program, we'll create string art projects with a fall theme. Be ready to sand, paint and string! We'll use wood, nails and paint, so you might get a little messy, please dress accordingly.

Who: Ages 14 and older
When: Mondays, September 11 – October 16
6:15pm – 7:15pm
Where: Lincoln Leisure Center, room 107
Cost: \$24
Limit: Minimum 6; Maximum 10



Holiday Crafts

It's the most wonderful time of the year! Let's celebrate by making some holiday crafts that are Christmas themed to kick off the holiday season! Be sure to wear clothes that can get messy as we'll be using paint & glue.

Who: Ages 14 and older
When: Mondays, October 23 – November 27
7:30pm – 8:30pm
Where: Lincoln Leisure Center, room 107
Cost: \$24
Limit: Minimum 6; Maximum 10



Halloween Crafts

Let's get spooky! In this program, we'll create some projects with Halloween as our theme. Don't worry, these crafts won't be too scary to show off. You'll want to dress to get dirty as we'll use paint and glue.

Who: Ages 14 and older
When: Mondays, September 11 – October 16
7:30pm – 8:30pm
Where: Lincoln Leisure Center, room 107
Cost: \$24
Limit: Minimum 6; Maximum 10

Yarn Stitching Creations

Let's use some yarn to stitch up something beautiful! Join us while we use yarn to make some wonderful creations. Our creations can also turn into some great gifts!

Who: Ages 14 and older
When: Mondays, October 23 – November 27
6:15pm – 7:15pm
Where: Lincoln Leisure Center, room 107
Cost: \$24
Limit: Minimum 6; Maximum 10



Music Experience

Make music with us! Participants will engage in a variety of musical games and activities, as they explore instruments, movement and songs. LIVE and recorded rhythms and songs combined with adapted movements and instruments will meet each ability level and engage all participants to their fullest potential. This program is created by Developing Melodies, with a Board Certified Music Therapist, lending their experience teaching and creating music.

Who: Ages 15 and older
When: Tuesdays, September 12 – October 17
6:00 pm – 7:00 pm
Where: Lincoln Leisure Center, room 203
Cost: \$60
Limit: Minimum 3; Maximum 6

Cooking

Lunch Bunch

Come cook a yummy lunch with your friends. In this program, we will chop, dice, slice and mix our way to a delicious lunch. Everyone will help prepare the meal and work together to clean up. The group will also plan the next week's meal along with creating our shopping list. Come hungry because a full meal will be prepared. We will have three sessions. Each session will have it's own registration sign up. Feel free to sign up for as many sessions as you would like.

Who: Ages 22 and older
When: Session I: Mondays, September 11 – October 2
11:30am – 1pm
Session II: Mondays, November 6 – 27
11:30am – 1pm
Session III: Mondays, January 8 – 29
11:30am – 1pm
Where: Miller Park Pavilion, Lower Level
Cost: \$20 per session
Limit: Minimum 6; Maximum 10

Easy Casserole Dishes

Casseroles are easy one pot meals. This means fewer dishes to wash and all the good stuff in one dish! For this program, you will have the opportunity to cut, chop, mix and bake up your dinner. Everyone will help prepare the meal each week and work together to clean up. Come hungry because a full meal will be prepared.

Who: Ages 14 and older
When: Wednesdays, September 13 – October 4
6:00pm – 7:30pm
Where: Lincoln Leisure Center, room 107
Cost: \$20
Limit: Minimum 6; Maximum 12

Holiday Performers



Here's your chance to shine! Have fun and gain confidence while developing your special talents on the stage. If your talent is dancing or acting...we're looking for you! Everyone will perform and have a great time focusing on presenting a holiday-themed show. Participants must be able to go up and down stairs with little to no assistance and follow verbal instructions. The program will conclude with a dress rehearsal on Wednesday, November 29 and the actual performance on Thursday, November 30. Dress rehearsal and show will be held at Heartland Community College. Attendance is mandatory each week, including dress rehearsal. Please check your calendar for conflicts before registering as participants will only be allowed to miss 2 rehearsals and MUST attend dress rehearsal.

Who: Ambulatory, ages 16 and older
When: Wednesdays, October 11 – November 15
6:15pm – 7:30pm
Dress Rehearsal 11/29 and Show 11/30
at Heartland Community College
6:15 pm – 8:15 pm
Where: Lincoln Leisure Center, room 107/gym
Cost: \$35
Limit: Minimum 10; Maximum 20



Zoo Education

ZOOper Fridays

Calling all animal lovers! Each month, we'll meet at the zoo to learn about a specific animal. A zoo education session will also include time to visit the animal's habitat inside the zoo. Wear your walking shoes and dress appropriately for the weather. This program includes 4 classroom dates and admission to the zoo each program date. NOTE: Masks may be required.

Who: Ages 22 and older

When: Fridays, 9/22, 10/27, 11/17, 12/15 & 1/19
1:00 pm - 2:30 pm

Where: Drop off/pick up at front entrance of Miller Park Zoo

Cost: \$60

Limit: Minimum 4; Maximum 10



Facility Directory

Government Center/The Hub

115 E. Washington St.
Bloomington, IL 61701
(309) 434-2260

BN Barbell Club

2902 Gill Street
Bloomington, IL 61704
(309) 531-4541

Hike Haven

218 Tanner St.
Bloomington, IL 61701

Bloomington Ice Center

201 S Roosevelt Ave,
Bloomington, IL 61701
(309) 434-2737

White Oak Park

1514 Cottage Ave,
Bloomington, IL 61701
(309) 434-2260

Miller Park Pavilion

1122 S Morris Ave
Bloomington, IL 61701
(309) 434-2255

Lincoln Leisure Center

1206 S. Lee
Bloomington, IL 61701
(309) 434-2819

Pheasant Lanes

804 N. Hershey Rd
Bloomington, IL 61704
(309) 663-8556

O'Neil Park (Softball Field)

1515 W. Chestnut St.
Bloomington, IL 61701

Miller Park Zoo

1020 S Morris Ave
Bloomington, IL 61701
(309) 434-2255

Wesleyan Shirk Center

302 E Emerson St,
Bloomington, IL 61701
(309) 556-3196

Normal Community Activity Center

1110 Douglas St,
Normal, IL 61761 • (309) 454-9779

Heartland Community College Asthroth Auditorium

1500 West Raab Road
Normal, Illinois 61761-9446
Phone: 309-268-8000

Midwest Food Bank - Bloomington/Normal Division

2031 Warehouse Rd,
Normal, IL 61761
(309) 663-5350

ISU Horticulture Center

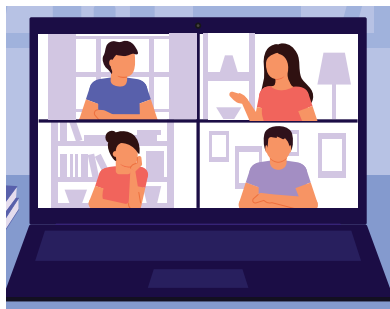
Across from the Corn Crib
1000 W. Raab Rd.,
Normal, IL 61761

REGISTER EARLY!
CLASSES FILL UP FAST!

Virtual Programs

Social Hour

Get together with friends to chat, dance and socialize virtually. We'll meet via Zoom once a month. Join us to hang out with friends each month. Zoom link will be sent out to those who register the morning of the program date listed.



Who: Ages 15 and older
When: Thursdays, 9/21, 10/19, 11/16 & 1/18
5:00pm – 6:00pm
Cost: FREE, but participants must register for Zoom link
Limit: Minimum 6; Maximum 20



Virtual Game Night

Get together with friends for a fun game night! We'll play some classic games like Bingo, Scattergories, Guess Who, Mad Libs, and more. SOAR will provide supplies, as needed to you the

week of the program. Zoom link will be provided the morning of the program date listed. Bring your game face!

Who: Ages 15 and older
When: Thursdays, 9/21, 10/19, 11/16 & 1/18
6:30pm – 7:30pm
Cost: FREE, but participants must register for Zoom link
Limit: Minimum 6; Maximum 20

Teen & Adult Night Out Programs



Friday Night Teen Club \$

Get together one Friday a month with your fellow SOAR teen friends for a night on the town. Outings could include movies, bowling, going to the mall or any other fun ideas we come up with as a group. Each week participants will need to pay for their own food and entertainment or admission expenses. A memo will be sent to those who register regarding activities, times, money needs, transportation, etc. (The first night we will meet at Hike Haven in Forrest Park for a fireside cookout and chat to figure out what our other outings will be.)

Due to the popularity of this program, we have three nights, based on age. Please sign up for the appropriate section.

Who: Ages 13 - 19
When: Fridays, 9/15, 10/6, 11/3, 12/15, 1/5
6:00 pm – 8:00 pm
Where: Drop off/pick up at Lincoln Leisure Center unless otherwise noted.
Cost: \$25 plus any extra costs depending on the chosen activity.
Limit: Minimum 6; Maximum 12



Friday Night Out \$

Get together one Friday a month with your fellow SOAR friends for a night on the town. Outings could include movies, bowling, going to the mall or any other fun ideas we come up with as a group. Each week participants will need to pay for their own food and entertainment or admission expenses. A memo will be sent to those who register regarding activities, times, money needs, transportation, etc.

Due to the popularity of this program, we have three nights, based on age. Please sign up for the appropriate section.

Who: Ages 20 – 26
When: Fridays, 9/22, 10/13, 11/10, 12/15, 1/12
6:00 pm - 8:00 pm
Where: Drop off/pick up at Lincoln Leisure Center unless otherwise noted
Cost: \$25 plus any extra costs depending on the chosen activity
Limit: Minimum 6, Maximum 12

Teen & Adult Night Out Programs

Let's Get Out

Get together one Friday a month with your fellow SOAR friends for a night on the town. Outings could include movies, bowling, going to the mall or any other fun ideas we come up with as a group. Each week participants will need to pay for their own food and entertainment or admission expenses. A memo will be sent to those who register regarding activities, times, money needs, transportation, etc. **Due to the popularity of this program, we have three nights, based on age. Please sign up for the appropriate section.**

Who: Ages 27 – up

When: Fridays, 9/29, 10/20, 11/17, 12/15, 1/19
6:00 pm - 8:00 pm

Where: Drop off/pick up at Lincoln Leisure Center
unless otherwise noted

Cost: \$25 plus any extra costs depending on the chosen activity

Limit: Minimum 6, Maximum 12



Youth Programs



SOAR for Starters

This program is targeted to youth that are too young for most other SOAR programs. On two Saturdays every month we will explore a variety of activities including games, music, dance, fitness, crafts, and social interaction. A 1:2 staff to participant ratio will be provided. Development of fundamental motor skills and eye-hand coordination will be emphasized. Dress in clothing for activity and wear gym shoes. Since some activities involve things like paint, participants should also wear clothes that can get messy!

Who: Ages 4 - 7

When: Saturdays, 9/16, 9/23, 10/21, 10/28,
11/4, 11/18, 12/9, 1/6, 1/20
10:00 am – 11:30 am

Where: Lincoln Leisure Center, Room 208

Cost: \$45

Limit: Minimum 4; Maximum 8

SOAR Animal Crackers

Animal Crackers is a Miller Park Zoo classic! Join us for a story, animal encounter, and a short zoo exploration. Our topic is always a surprise ~ we have a great time guessing which animal will visit! One adult accompanies each child to class but does not pay an additional registration fee. The registration fee includes admission to the Zoo for the participating child & one adult on the day of class. Only register the participant.

Who: Ages 4 - 7 accompanied by parent

When: Saturday, September 23 and Saturday, October 21
1:00 pm – 2:00 pm

Where: Miller Park Zoo

Cost: \$13/adult & child

*Unregistered siblings of any age may not attend

Limit: Minimum 4, maximum 6



Zoo Story

Spend an hour at the Miller Park Zoo for a story and some animal time. One parent/guardian welcome to attend along with a participant.

Who: Ages 3 – 7

When: Wednesdays, September 20 – October 11
10:00 am – 11:00 am

Where: Miller Park Zoo

Cost: \$12

Limit: Minimum 4, Maximum 8

Youth Programs

Red Panda Day!

It's the day of the Red Panda! We'll visit the Miller Park Zoo for some activities and actually go visit our own Red Pandas. If we have extra time, we may try to help clean up around the park.

Who: Ages 8 – 21
When: Saturday, September 16
1:00 pm – 2:30 pm
Where: Miller Park Zoo
Cost: \$6
Limit: Minimum 6, Maximum 12



Green is Good!

We'll be meeting at the ISU Horticultural Center to visit the grounds, chat with a Master Gardener and do some gardening related activities! The Hort Center will still have lots of things in bloom!

Who: Ages 8 – 21
When: Saturday, September 23
1:00 pm – 2:30 pm
Where: ISU Horticultural Center, Raab Road
Cost: \$6
Limit: Minimum 6, Maximum 12

Sloth and Sweet

This is what happens when you mix Sloth Appreciation Day with Sweetest Day!

Who: Ages 8 - 21
When: Saturday, October 21
1:00 pm – 2:30 pm
Where: Lincoln Leisure Center, Room 107 and Kitchen
Cost: \$6
Limit: Minimum 6; Maximum 12

Get Fall-y Hike-y!

We'll ride out to a nearby hiking area yet to be named and take in the sights and smells of the changing weather! A note will be sent to those that register to confirm the park when we get closer to program date.

Who: Ages 8 - 21
When: Saturday, October 28
1:00 pm – 3:00 pm
Where: Leave from Lincoln Leisure Center
Cost: \$6
Limit: Minimum 6; Maximum 12

Big Game Day

Who doesn't love a giant version of a game? Jenga, Kerplunk and other oversized games yet to be named will be available for the fun of it!

Who: Ages 8 - 21
When: Saturday, November 4
1:00 pm – 3:00 pm
Where: Hike Haven
Cost: \$6
Limit: Minimum 6; Maximum 12

Games and Puzzles

Honoring our brains with board games and puzzles...and perhaps hot cider and s'mores beside a bonfire if the weather allows!

Who: Ages 8 - 21
When: Saturday, November 18
1:00 pm – 2:30 pm
Where: Hike Haven
Cost: \$6
Limit: Minimum 6; Maximum 12

Gingerbread and Trick Shots

Perhaps baking, for sure decorating some gingerbread people... and while they bake we'll head to the gym to try our hands at some crazy contests making our trickiest trick shots!

Who: Ages 8 - 21
When: Saturday, December 9
1:00 pm – 2:30 pm
Where: Lincoln Leisure Center, Room 107, kitchen, gym
Cost: \$6
Limit: Minimum 6; Maximum 12

Beans All Day

It's Bean Appreciation Day, so we'll play some different bean bag games and get our bodies moving to defeat cabin fever!

Who: Ages 8 - 21
When: Saturday, January 6
1:00 pm - 2:30 pm
Where: Lincoln Leisure Center gym
Cost: \$6
Limit: Minimum 6; Maximum 12

Happy Feet Funny Socks

Wear your funniest warmest movie watching socks while we make popcorn and watch HAPPY FEET on the big screen!

Who: Ages 8 – 21
When: Saturday, January 20
1:00 pm - 2:30 pm
Where: Lincoln Leisure Center, Room 107, Gym
Cost: \$6
Limit: Minimum 6; Maximum 12

Special Events

IWU Football Game

Come out and support our IWU football friends as they take on the Washington University Bears. Be sure to wear green and white to support the Titans! Participants may bring money for concessions. A reminder memo with more information will be emailed to those who register.

Who: Ages 14 and older
When: Saturday, September 16
12pm – 3:30pm
Where: Drop off/pick-up at Lincoln Leisure Center
Cost: \$10
Limit: Minimum 8; Maximum 20



Pumpkin Painting Party

How about a painted pumpkin for your front porch? Painted pumpkins last longer than jack-o-lanterns, they require no sharp tools and they don't stink after a few days! It's a great alternative to the traditional carved porch pumpkin. We'll gather to decorate pumpkins using paint and other embellishments, then have a hot dog roast by the fire for dinner.

Who: Ages 12 and older
When: Thursday, October 26
6:30pm – 8:30pm
Where: Hike Haven, Forrest Park
Cost: \$5
Limit: Minimum 8; Maximum 20



TGIF

Our favorite adult day program is back! We'll hit the road for some fun trips, do some in-town activities and enjoy time with friends. Each Friday the program meets, lunch will be provided as well as an activity that will require some walking. Cost of lunch is included in the registration fee. Participants may bring spending money for souvenirs or snacks. A reminder memo will be emailed to those who registered.

Who: Ages 22 and older
When: Fridays, September 22 – October 13
10:00 am – 4:00 pm
Where: Drop off/pick up at Lincoln Leisure Center
Cost: \$60
Limit: Minimum 6; Maximum 12



Halloween Dance

Time to get your best costume out! Come Celebrate Halloween with SOAR. A DJ will provide music for dancing. We will also have light refreshments and punch.

Who: Ages 12 and older
When: Friday, October 27
6:30pm – 8:30pm
Where: Miller Park Pavilion, Main Level
Cost: \$10
Limit: Minimum 20; Maximum 60

Special Events



Craft-a-Palooza

Calling all crafters! Let's make something! This session we will get ready for the holidays with Thanksgiving, Christmas and winter themed crafts. We'll have lots of options, so you can create as many projects as you have time for. Some projects may need to be picked up later, depending on drying time. Be sure to wear clothes that can get messy!

Who: Ages 14 and older
When: Sunday, November 5
2:30 pm – 5:00 pm
Where: Lincoln Leisure Center, room 107
Cost: \$10
Limit: Minimum 6; Maximum 12

Bingo & Popcorn

Calling all Bingo players! Join us for a few rounds of bingo plus a popcorn snack. You'll leave with some great prizes and big smiles after having some fun with friends.

Who: Ages 14 and older
When: Thursday, November 9
6:30 pm - 8:30 pm
Where: Miller Park Pavilion, Lower Level
Cost: \$8
Limit: Minimum 8; Maximum 20

Holiday Baking

As we near the holidays, it's the perfect time to make pies, cookies and treats to share with loved ones. Join us in making some yummy treats and desserts to try and to share. Be ready to get in the kitchen to help prepare the treats and come hungry!

Who: Ages 16 and older
When: Saturday, November 11
9am – 11:30am
Where: Miller Park Pavilion, Lower Level
Cost: \$12
Limit: Minimum 6; Maximum 12

Holiday Dance

Celebrate the holidays with dessert and dancing with friends. Music will be provided by a DJ and a dessert and drinks will be served. Santa and Mrs. Claus will also arrive to pass out gifts before you leave.

Who: Ages 12 and older
When: Wednesday, December 6
6:30 pm – 8:30 pm
Where: Miller Park Pavilion, Main Level
Cost: \$10
Limit: Minimum 20; Maximum 100



Christmas Party

Time to celebrate the holidays with friends. At our Christmas party, we will eat yummy treats, create a gift for a friend and play fun games. Be sure to dress festive and take lots of pictures with your friends.

Who: Ages 12 and older
When: Wednesday, December 13
6:30 pm – 8:30 pm
Where: Miller Park Pavilion, Main level
Cost: \$5
Limit: Minimum 10, Maximum 30

Wii Games

Do you love Wii sports and Just Dance? Let's get together for some games on the Wii. We'll enjoy some of the popular games and visit with friends. Due to the popularity of the program, it will be offered twice. Please only register for one date.

Who: Ages 14 and older
When: Monday, December 4 OR Monday, December 11
6:30pm – 8:00pm
Where: Lincoln Leisure Center, room 107
Cost: \$6
Limit: Minimum 4; Maximum 8

Special Events



Monday Night Movies

While the weather outside is frightful, we'll stay in with a fun movie and popcorn with friends! Join us at Lincoln Leisure Center for a movie night. Movies are listed below. Registration is per date. Participants may register for one or both movie dates.

Who: Ages 14 and older

When: Monday, January 8
(Movie: The Super Mario Bros Movie)
6:00pm – 8:30pm

When: Monday, January 15 (Movie: Elemental)
6:00pm – 8:30pm

Where: Lincoln Leisure Center, gym

Cost: \$5/night

Limit: Minimum 6; Maximum 12

Family Bowling

– just need to confirm date

Bring out your family and friends for a fun afternoon of bowling. The concession stand will be open. Please register each person. Registration will also be taken at the door, but early registration is encouraged. Registration fee included 2 hours of bowling and shoe rental. If bowling ramps are needed, please contact SOAR at least a week prior to the event.

Who: SOAR participants and their families

When: Sunday,

Where: Pheasant Lanes, Bloomington

Cost: \$12/person

Limit: Minimum 12; Maximum 40

Bingo Blast

Calling all bingo players! Join us for a dessert before we play a few rounds of bingo and win some cool prizes.

Who: Ages 14 and older

When: Tuesday, January 23
6:30pm – 8:30pm

Where: Normal Community Activity Center

Cost: \$8

Limit: Minimum 8; Maximum 20





September 2023

| Sunday | Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday | Thursday | Friday | Saturday |
|--------|--|---|---|--|------------------------------------|--|
| | | | | | 1 | 2 |
| 3 | Labor Day <i>(Office Closed)</i> | SO Modified Volleyball Martial Arts | SO Bocce Yoga with Vanessa | SO Unified Volleyball | 8 | SO State Golf Tournament SO State Softball Tournament |
| 10 | Lunch Bunch I Recreational Bowling Cardio Fitness Fall String Art Halloween Crafts | Seat to SOAR Music Experience SO Modified Volleyball Martial Arts | SO Bocce Open Gym I Easy Casserole Dishes Yoga with Vanessa | SO Unified Volleyball | Friday Night Teen Club | SOAR for Starters Red Panda Day! IWU Football Game |
| 17 | Lunch Bunch I Recreational Bowling Cardio Fitness Fall String Art Halloween Crafts | Seat to SOAR Music Experience SO Modified Volleyball Martial Arts | Zoo Story SO Bocce Open Gym I Easy Casserole Dishes Yoga with Vanessa | Walk the Zoo SO Unified Volleyball Game Nights SOAR Social Hour SOAR Virtual Game Night | ZOOper Fridays Friday Night Out | SOAR for Starters SOAR Animal Crackers Green is Good! |
| 24 | Lunch Bunch I Recreational Bowling Cardio Fitness Fall String Art Halloween Crafts | Seat to SOAR Music Experience Martial Arts | Zoo Story SO Bocce Open Gym I Easy Casserole Dishes Yoga with Vanessa | Walk the Zoo | TGIF Let's Get Out! | |

REGISTER EARLY! CLASSES FILL UP FAST!

December 2023

| Sunday | Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday | Thursday | Friday | Saturday |
|--------------------------|---|-------------------------|---------------------------|-------------------------|---|---|
| New Year's Eve 31 | | | | | | SO Snowshoeing State Bowling Tournament 2 |
| | Wii Games 4 | SO Basketball 5 | Holiday Dance 6 | SO Basketball 7 | SO Pizza and Karaoke Night 8 | Regional Snowshoe Qualifier (<i>tentative</i>) SOAR for Starters Gingerbread and Trick Shots 9 |
| | Wii Games 11 | SO Basketball 12 | Christmas Party 13 | SO Basketball 14 | ZOoper Fridays Friday Night Teen Club Friday Night Out Let's Get Out! 15 | |
| | | SO Basketball 19 | | SO Basketball 21 | Christmas Holiday (<i>Office Closed</i>) 22 | Christmas Eve 23 |
| Christmas Day 24 | Christmas Holiday (<i>Office Closed</i>) 25 | | | | Ron Knisley Memorial Shoot Out New Year's Holiday (<i>Office Closed at Noon</i>) 29 | Ron Knisley Memorial Shoot Out 30 |

REGISTER EARLY! CLASSES FILL UP FAST!



January 2024

| Sunday | Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday | Thursday | Friday | Saturday |
|------------------------|---|---------------|---------------------------------|---|----------------------------------|---|
| | New Year's Day <i>(Office Closed)</i> | SO Basketball | Dance to SOAR II | SO Basketball | Friday Night Teen Club | SO Powerlifting SOAR for Starters Beans All Day |
| | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 |
| | Lunch Bunch III Monday Night Movies | SO Basketball | Dance to SOAR II | SO Basketball | Friday Night Out | SO Powerlifting |
| 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 | 11 | 12 | 13 |
| SOAR Family Bowling | Lunch Bunch III Monday Night Movies MLK Day <i>(Office Closed)</i> | SO Basketball | Dance to SOAR II | SO Basketball SOAR Social Hour SOAR Virtual Game Night | ZOOper Fridays Let's Get Out! | SO Powerlifting SOAR for Starters Happy Feet Funny Socks |
| 14 | 15 | 16 | 17 | 18 | 19 | 20 |
| SO District Basketball | Lunch Bunch III | Bingo Blast | Dance to SOAR II Open Gym II | | | SO Powerlifting |
| 21 | 22 | 23 | 24 | 25 | 26 | 27 |
| | Lunch Bunch III | | Open Gym II | | | |
| 28 | 29 | 30 | 31 | | | |

REGISTER EARLY! CLASSES FILL UP FAST!

Fall 2023 SOAR Program Registration Form

Please return the completed form along with the fee to the SOAR/Bloomington Parks and Recreation Office,
PO Box 3157, Bloomington, IL 61702-3157. For further information, call (309) 434-2260.

Participant's Name _____ Gender _____
Address _____
City _____ Zip _____ Home Phone _____
Age _____ Birthdate _____ Disability _____
Primary Emergency Contact _____ 1st Phone _____ 2nd Phone _____
Secondary Emergency Contact(s) _____ 1st Phone _____ 2nd Phone _____
_____ 1st Phone _____ 2nd Phone _____
E-Mail Address _____

| PROGRAM NAME | PROGRAM FEE |
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To help SOAR provide safe and satisfactory participation in programs, please list any changes in medications, behaviors, living situations or other issues that may effect participation in SOAR programs:

TOTAL: \$ _____

Publicity Statement:
I Do *Do Not* give my permission for pictures to be taken of the participant to be used by SOAR for the purpose of agency promotion and education.

Transportation:
I Do *Do Not* give my permission for the participant to receive transportation in vehicles owned or rented by SOAR for use in weekly programs and special events.

Emergency Treatment Permission
I know that SOAR does not carry medical or accident insurance. My own health insurance must assume responsibility in the event of injury. I understand that every precaution is taken to protect the safety of each person.

I Do *Do Not* agree to emergency treatment by a physician or hospital in the event that I can't be reached.

Signature of parent or legal guardian: _____ Date: _____
(participant needs to sign if own legal guardian)

Must complete if using VISA, MasterCard, or Discover

Card Number _____ Expiration Date _____ V-code on back of card _____
Name of Cardholder _____ Charge Amount: \$ _____
Authorized Signature _____

Registration Information

How to register for a Program or Activity - you must first establish your account: Visit www.bloomingtonparks.org

In the top right hand corner hover over "Register"
A dropdown will appear
Select Programs & Activities

This will take you to a new page:

If you previously had an account in our old system you will need to select "Sign In" and enter the email address associated with the existing account, then click "Forgot your password?" This will then prompt you to create a new password.

If you did not have an account, you will need to "Create an Account"

After your account has been established, you are ready to register for an activity or program by following the steps outlined below:

- 1) Click the Activities button on the registration home page.
- 2) Select the Activity Category that you would like to enroll into. Clicking the underlined name will show you a detailed Activity description.
- 3) Click the Enroll Now button if you wish to register for the Activity. Select the participant you wish to enroll. Click the Add to Cart button to register.
- 4) Next, sign into your online registration account by entering your Email and Password. Proceed to checkout by clicking the Continue button. From this screen you may remove Activities from your cart or view more Activities and add them to your cart.

*Please Note: If more than one family member will be attending the Activity, click on the button labeled, Add Another One (*located under the Shopping Cart screen*).

- 5) Confirm your Activity name, date and time, enrollee and price.
- 6) Click Check Out to proceed with payment. You will be prompted that you are entering a secure site. Enter your credit card information on the Payment Information Page and agree to any required waiver(s) and confirm the payer meets the age requirement of "13 Years or Older". Click Continue. This system accepts Visa, MasterCard, Discover and American Express.

*Please Note: The name and address must match those that are on file with your credit card company. If the address shown is not your credit card billing address, click on the My Account button and change your residential address to match your credit card billing address.

- 7) Once your payment has been approved, your receipt will display. Please print a copy of your receipt for your records.

Other ways to register - Registration may be done on-line, in person or through the mail. **Registration may be done in person at The Hub at 115 E Washington Street. Monday - Friday from 8:00 am to 4:30 pm or it may be mailed. Send to:**

**SOAR Program Registration
PO Box 3157
Bloomington, IL 61702-3157**

Notification of Acceptance - SOAR will notify you only if you have not been accepted into a program. Once the registration procedure has been completed and accepted by SOAR staff you are registered. Please attend the program as scheduled in the brochure. Reminder memos are only sent for those events that state in the brochure ... "reminder memo will be emailed."

Program Cancellation

1. A program will be cancelled if the minimum number of participants needed is not met. SOAR staff will notify people by email if this situation arises.
2. In cases of bad weather, participants should call the SOAR office at (309) 434-2260 or the Bloomington Parks and Recreation **HOTLINE** at (309) 434-2386 after 3:00 pm to see if a program has been cancelled.

Typo, Human Errors, We Goofed...!?

Occasionally there may be an error in days, times, registration requirements or fees in the brochure. If so, the staff will do everything possible to correct the situation promptly. Thank you for your patience and understanding should any of these situations arise.

Where Are We?

We are located 109 E. Olive St., Bloomington, Illinois.

Registration Deadline - On-line registration begins at **7:00 am on Thursday, August 10. Mail-in registration will begin on Thursday, August 10 at 8:00 AM.** Registration won't be accepted for a program that has already begun. Registration deadline for all special events is one week prior to the date of each event if openings are available. **Please register early; many SOAR programs fill up quickly!**

Payment Plans - Full payment of program fees should be included with the registration form. However, payment plans can be arranged for those individuals who need to spread their payment out over several months. Payment in full must be received in the SOAR office prior to registering for a new program session. Payments for special events must be paid in full at the time of registration. No payment plans will be set up after Friday, August 25.

Financial Assistance Policy - Partial financial assistance is available for those who need it in order to pay the program registration fees. Those requesting assistance need to fill out a Scholarship Request Form (*available at Bloomington Parks and Recreation Office*) and submit it to Holly along with a completed registration form. Financial assistance is not provided for bowling fees or special events with contractual or admission costs. The deadline to request assistance for programs is Friday, August 25.

Refund Procedures

Refund Procedures

1. A full credit or refund will be issued if a program is cancelled by SOAR.
2. To be eligible for a requested refund, the request must be made no less than three business days prior to the start of the program.
3. A refund minus a \$5 service charge will be issued to participants withdrawing from a program.
4. Refunds of special event/program fees for which SOAR has incurred a cost due to ticket purchase, deposits, rentals, etc. will only be made if SOAR is given 48-hour notice and the vacancy caused by the cancellation is filled. A \$5 service charge will be deducted.
5. A pro-rated refund may be given if a program is deemed inappropriate for an individual.
6. Credits for future registration costs will be issued for all refunds of \$20 or less.
7. Refunds will be issued by check on a monthly basis after being approved by the Bloomington City Council. Please allow at least three weeks for the processing of refunds.

Transportation

Transportation is available for some SOAR activities on a first-come, first-served basis for *Bloomington and Normal residents who have no other way to attend events. Car pools and the City transit system are recommended means of transportation.

Please don't use transportation services as a "convenience". Many individuals have no other way to attend programs and services are limited. Programs in which transportation is available are followed by the symbol on the right.



To receive transportation:

1. Individuals needing to use door to door transportation services from SOAR must apply for this service separately for each program/event that it is available for. Applications for transportation services are available at the SOAR office, by contacting Holly Polley at hpolley@cityblm.org or by calling the office at (309) 434-2260.
2. Transportation service is limited and this is reserved for individuals who could not otherwise participate in SOAR programs without it. If a participant has a parent or someone in the home that can drive the participant to/from programs, he/she should NOT register for transportation. This service is not to be utilized for convenience.
3. Transportation is also only available to those individuals who live within the Bloomington/Normal service area (listed below). SOAR reserves the right to cancel a participant's registration for transportation if they have access to other means of transportation or live outside of the service area in order to accommodate someone who meets eligibility.
4. Before a program is scheduled to begin, individuals will be sent notification of pick-up time for transportation for each requested program in the mail. This will be mailed at the beginning of the session for weekly programs or one week prior to a special event (if a memo is sent).
5. All transportation applications and requests must be received by Friday, August 25.

Bloomington/Normal residents eligible for transportation service need to reside within the following geographic area:

55 north,

74/55/51 bypass west

Six Points/Veteran's Parkway/Ireland Grove South

Towanda Barnes Road east

Questions/Information

If there are any questions regarding eligibility, registration procedures, scholarships, transportation, or the SOAR program in general, feel free to contact the SOAR office at (309) 434-2260. TDD for the hearing impaired at (309) 829-5115. Fax: (309) 434-2483. Web site address is www.cityblm.org/soar. Hotline: (309) 434-2386.

hpolley@cityblm.org



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Current Resident or

DATED MATERIAL
DELIVER BEFORE
MONDAY JULY 24TH, 2023



• ANNIVERSARY •
CELEBRATION!

**SUNDAY,
SEPT. 17
1PM – 4PM**

**LOCATION:
TIPTON PARK NORTH SHELTER &
THE WEST BALLFIELD
THIS OPEN HOUSE FAMILY EVENT WILL HAVE
MUSIC, YARD GAMES, POPCORN & FUN!**

NO REGISTRATION REQUIRED.

**CONGRATULATIONS
ROB & DREW!
...ON YOUR MEDAL WINS AT THE
WORLD GAMES IN BERLIN!**

