Unified Champion Schools ®

Special Olympics New Jersey

2025-26 SONJ UCS Funding Guidelines

Allowable expenses support regular, repeated Unified experiences and include*:

- ✓ Stipends for activities occurring outside of contracted hours if criteria are met
- ✓ Transportation to Unified sporting events by school bus
- ✓ Facility rental fees for practices and competitions for interscholastic teams
- ✓ Materials and supplies that are not reasonably available at your school
- ✓ Up to $100 in non-durable goods (art supplies, etc.)
- ✓ Up to $500 for up to 75 t-shirts (ordered by December 15)
- ✓ Officials' Fees for up to 3 competitions per sport

Non-allowable expenses include:

- ✗ Permanent items (playground equipment, laptops, storage)
- ✗ Items which will be sold
- ✗ Purchases for events or activities which are not considered Unified
- ✗ Food or drink of any kind

Pre-Approval is required for:

- Single items $500 and above
- Uniforms and T-shirts. Both the purchase and design require pre-approval. Prior approvals do not carry over.
- Anything in print using SO or UCS logos or branding

Important Deadlines*:

- Submit reimbursement requests within 30 days of making payment
- All expenses paid out in 2025 must be submitted for reimbursement by January 20
- All physical supplies must be purchased and be in hand by April 20
- July 3 is the final day to submit reimbursement requests

Fundraiser Requirement:
Each school awarded a UCS grant must organize at least one fundraiser to support either their Unified initiatives or SONJ. The required fundraising amount is based on your funding level.

UCS Grant Award	Level 1 Up to $1499	Level 2 $1500-2999	Level 3 $3000-$4999	Level 4 $5,000+
Fundraiser Required	$300	$500	$800	$1,250

**Exceptions may be available by request*
**These lists are not exhaustive*