



FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

GENERAL

What is Over the Edge?

Over the Edge is a Canada-based special events company that provides signature events for non-profit organizations. Participants are invited to fundraise in exchange for the once-in-a-lifetime experience of rappelling “Over the Edge” of a local building. In Delaware, the Over the Edge crew handles the technical aspects of the event and Special Olympics Delaware recruits “Edgers” to participate in the event and raise money on their behalf.

How does it work?

To go Over the Edge, individual participants must first [register online](#) with a \$50 fee – this secures your spot and counts toward your overall fundraising total. Each Edger must raise a minimum of \$1,100. The majority of fundraising is done online through our registration/fundraising platform, Classy.org.

What does the money raised from Over the Edge benefit?

All funds raised from the Over the Edge event benefit the 4,200 athletes of Special Olympics Delaware. This event helps fuel Special Olympics Delaware’s mission to provide year-round sports training and competition to children and adults with intellectual disabilities throughout the state. All of this programming is free of charge to our athletes and their families. When you go Over the Edge, you support our athletes who show their determination, courage, and bravery every day.

FUNDRAISING

I don't have much experience fundraising; how do I do it?

Thanks to our online registration/fundraising platform at Classy.org, you can easily share your Over the Edge fundraising efforts with friends and family near and far! When you register, a personal fundraising page will automatically be created for you. You can add photos, update your fundraising goal, and customize the messaging on the page. Although this is the simplest and most popular way to begin fundraising, be sure to check out our [fundraising toolkit](#) for all kinds of other creative fundraising ideas.

Does the \$50 registration fee count toward my fundraising goal?

Yes! Essentially, you are contributing \$50 toward your own goal and asking friends and family to help with the remaining. When you register, the \$50 fee will secure your spot and then will be added to your fundraising page.

What if someone wants to write a check or donate cash?

Checks should be made out to Special Olympics Delaware, and Edger's Name – OTE (i.e. John Johnson – OTE) should be written on the memo line.

You should collect checks and cash from your donors and send them to the Special Olympics Delaware office. We don't encourage you to mail cash – either drop it by our office, get a cashier's check to mail, or turn it in on event day.

Our address: Special Olympics Delaware • 619 S College Ave • Newark, DE 19716

It is important that we know that the check/cash donation should be credited to you, so make sure that information is available when you send in cash or checks.

What happens if I do not raise at least \$1,100?

Each individual Edger must raise at least \$1,100 in order to rappel. And you will! The fundraising process will be easier than you imagine. As soon as you reach the \$1,100 minimum, we will reach out to schedule your rappel time. We need to have that schedule finalized by the Monday of event week. If you are not at the \$1,100 minimum by that date, we will be in touch to discuss next steps.

PARTICIPANTS

Are there age requirements to rappel?

There is no upper age limit for this event. As far as a minimum age requirement, we do ask that anyone under the age of 18 contact the Special Olympics Delaware office before registering.

Are there weight restrictions to rappel?

The equipment safety standards enforced by Over the Edge require that participants must be between 100 and 300 lbs in order to safely rappel.

What should I wear when I rappel? Can I wear a costume?

Dress comfortably! Do not wear overly loose, baggy, or bulky clothing. Wear soft-soled, close-toed shoes or sneakers. The harness goes around your legs, waist and shoulders – we recommend wearing long pants and a long-sleeved shirt. Long hair must be tied back. You will be given a pair of gloves and a helmet to wear while you rappel. Costumes are allowed but are subject to the same limitations as clothing. Every attempt will be made to safely fit costumes around harnesses and helmets. It is ultimately the decision of the Site Safety Supervisor.

Can I rappel with a camera or other valuables?

Personal cameras are not permitted. You won't have a free hand to take photos anyway! If you are using a GoPro it must be securely fastened to you to the satisfaction of the rappel staff. We will have volunteer photographers throughout the day and you'll have access to the images after the event. On event day, you will check-in droppable items like keys and cell phones, or jewelry that can get caught on things. No phones are allowed on the roof.

What else should I expect on rappel day?

Over the Edge has prepared a great [“What to Expect” document](#) that will walk you through everything that goes on during event day.

Who else is going Over the Edge?

Be on the lookout for “Edger Updates” that will come in your email leading up to event day. These updates will include a list of who has registered to join you.

TECHNICAL

Is Over the Edge safe?

Absolutely! Over the Edge has never had a single incident or accident at any event since their inception in 2003. Every Over the Edge event is set up as an industrial worksite and as a result is compliant with all federal and state OSHA Fall Protection Standards and OSHA Federal and State Laws. To read more about safety, visit the [Over the Edge site](#).

Who will be setting up the rappel gear and what qualifications do they have?

All members of the Over the Edge technical team are IRATA and SPRAT certified industrial rope access technicians. They also rely on the help of volunteers from local fire departments, SWAT teams and AMGA Guides to assist with the ropes. Most volunteers have been doing our event for years and/or have extensive training in areas like rope rescue and/or are instructors in rope rescue or climbing.

How old are the ropes? When are they inspected and by whom?

The Over the Edge technical team regularly orders new ropes. They are inspected by a qualified technical staff at the start and end of each event. During the event, safety checks are performed for each person before they rappel, and periodically throughout the day the team re-inspects all the rigging.

Do I get to practice before the big rappel?

Yes! You will go through a training right before your big rappel. This practice session will help you get used to the harness, rappel device and technique for descending the building. We also offer practice sessions at the Delaware Rock Gym in Bear – these are not mandatory, but give you the chance to learn about the equipment and process, and even meet a couple of the ropes volunteers you'll work with on event day. Look for dates and times for the Delaware Rock Gym opportunities in your Edger Updates.