DO YOU ASSIST MINOR ATHLETES WITH DISABILITIES WITH DAILY ACTIVITIES OR ATHLETIC PREPARATION?

If you do and are authorized in this role by your Organization or a Minor Athlete's parent/guardian, you meet the Minor Athlete Abuse Prevention Policies (MAAPP) definition of a Personal Care Assistant (PCA). Qualifying PCA activities include being a guide for blind or visually impaired athletes, or assisting an athlete with a disability with wheelchair transfer, dressing, medication administration, restroom tasks, or another function during sport-related activity.

If you are a PCA for a Minor Athlete affiliated with the Olympic and Paralympic Movement, you are subject to MAAPP policies when interacting with Minor Athletes who are not your child. The MAAPP requires that one-on-one interactions between you and Minor Athletes be observable and interruptible.

As a PCA, you may be granted exceptions to some MAAPP policies so that you can have necessary one-on-one interactions that are not observable and interruptible. The following requirements must be met:

1. The Minor Athlete’s parent/guardian provides written consent to the Organization for you to work with that Minor Athlete.
2. You complete all training required by the MAAPP.
3. You meet the Organization’s screening requirements.

The settings and circumstances that allow PCA policy exceptions are:

1. Individual training sessions
2. Locker rooms/changing areas
3. Electronic communication
4. Transportation
5. Lodging

The exceptions DO NOT apply to massages, rubdowns or other athletic training modalities, or showering. Report any concern about abuse or misconduct to the U.S. Center for SafeSport [uscenterforsafesport.org/report-a-concern/] or your organization.