



**Nicole Batista** joined Special Olympics Connecticut as an intern in May 2017. She then began working as a health and wellness coordinator in September, overseeing Special Olympics Connecticut's fitness and athlete leadership programs.

Nicole received a B.S. in Exercise Science from Central Connecticut State University in May 2017 and is currently pursuing a master's degree in Public Health from Southern Connecticut State University.

She is a Certified Exercise Physiologist (EP-C) through the American College of Sports Medicine and received the Donna Murphy Service Scholarship Award from the association. In addition to working for Special Olympics Connecticut, Nicole has worked as a senior group leader for Farmington Extended Care and Learning and as a recreation program staff member for Chapel Haven Schleifer Center.

### **Fun Facts:**

***Favorite sports memory:*** Hearing about how the Fit 5 program helped an athlete achieve gold medals in all of his events that season.

***Sports hero:*** Bobbi Gibb

***What does inclusion mean to you?*** Respecting and appreciating individuality.