



Classification for School Sport Classification General Guide

What is Classification?

Classification groups athletes who have similar impairments together into classes for competition in their particular sport. The classification assessment process is managed by the national federation for the sport, in conjunction with other system partners.

General information about classification and its role in sport may be found at <https://www.paralympic.org.au/classification/>

Who needs to be classified?

All students with an eligible impairment type must be classified if they wish to participate in representative school sport as an athlete with a disability at a state or national championships.

- Each sport has specific minimal impairment criteria that a student must meet in order to receive a class for competition. Athletes may be eligible for one sport but not another.
- Not all students with a disability will meet the sport specific minimal impairment criteria. If a student does not meet the criteria for the impairment group, they will not be eligible to compete as an athlete with a disability and will be required to compete as an able bodied student.

How does a student get a classification?

Classification may be a face to face assessment or a paperwork process depending on the impairment group.

- Athletes / Parents can request further information about classification using the **Get classified form** as soon as they are interested in competing for their school
- Parents / teachers are encouraged to contact the relevant National or State Sporting organisation to arrange a classification. Further information is available at:

Swimming

Physical Disability:

<http://form.jotformpro.com/form/43058918602962>

Intellectual Disability

<http://sportinclusionaustralia.org.au/wp-content/uploads/2016/06/SchoolSportEligibilityForm.pdf>



Athletics (Track and field, cross country)

Physical Disability

<https://www.athletics.com.au/multi-class-athletics/get-classified/>

Intellectual Disability

<http://sportinclusionaustralia.org.au/wp-content/uploads/2016/06/SchoolSportEligibilityForm.pdf>

- Athletes will require a supporting medical documentation from their doctor and/or specialist in order to proceed with classification. Each impairment group requires specific medical documentation to be presented, it is best to check with your sport.

Classification for School Sport Classification General Guide IMPAIRMENT GROUP

Physical Impairment

Students with a physical disability that affects movement:

- Muscle weakness
- Limited range of movement of a joint,
- Amputation or limb deficiency,
- Brain injury or cerebral palsy resulting in ataxia, hypertonia or athetosis
- Short Stature
- Leg length difference
- Other musculoskeletal conditions

Minimal impairment criteria applies for each sport

Vision Impairment – <https://www.paralympic.org.au/vi-request-for-classification/>

Paralympics Australia manage the National Classification Program for Vision Impairment. If you have a vision impairment (VI) and would like to start the process of getting a VI classification, please complete the VI request for Classification form using the link above.

Intellectual Impairment – <http://sportinclusionaustralia.org.au/wp-content/uploads/2016/06/SchoolSportEligibilityForm.pdf>

Students with an IQ less than 75 as assessed by a professionally administered IQ test, and significant limitations in adaptive behaviour (conceptual, social or practical adaptive skills).

Deaf – <http://deafsports.org.au/staging/classification/>

Students with hearing level loss of at least 55db in the better ear as assessed by an audiologist or audio metrist.

Transplant - <http://transplant.org.au/get-involved/multi-class-sports/>

Students who have had an organ or bone marrow transplant including kidney, liver, heart, lung, pancreas.



What are the sport classes? Each impairment group has specific classes for competition.

Cross Country uses the athletics classification system.

Impairment Group	Athletics Sport Classes	Swimming Sport Classes
Physical Impairment*	Classes T/F 31-57	Classes S 1-10
Vision Impairment*	Classes T/F 11-13	Classes S 11-13
Intellectual Impairment*	Class T/F 20	Class S 20
Hearing Impairment	Class T/F 01	Class S 15
Transplantees	Class T/F60	Class S 16

Classification Masterlist

The sport classification master list provides a summary of all athletes who have been formally classified for the sport.

This is managed by the national federation for the sport.

Athletics

<https://www.athletics.com.au/multi-class-athletics/get-classified/>

Swimming

<https://www.swimming.org.au/Multi-class-swimming/Get-classified.aspx>