

Education Guidelines Annex

FIS Para Classifier Cross-Country

V1.0 – February 2026

FIS Knowledge & Education Centre



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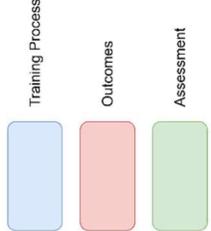
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1. Overview of Education Pathway Para Classifier Cross-Country

Para Classifier Cross-Country		Applicant Nomination Process	Applicant Phase	2-3 years	Candidate Phase	Licensed Phase	
		<p>Training Process Where they ideally get knowledge and skills needs to cover up</p> <p>Skills: What they need to be able to do</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Medical profession - Experience with the sport - Extensive (Para) coaching experience and knowledge about sports sciences 	<p>Knowledge: What they need to know and be aware of</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - E-Learning; Moodle - IPC Classification Fundamentals Online Course 	<p>Outcomes What they need to know and be aware of</p> <p>Skills: What they need to be able to do</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Role of a Classifier - Fundamentals of Classification - FIS Para Nordic Classification Rules and Regulations - Physical and/or Technical Assessments for athletes - Assessment observation - Sport Class allocation - How do we work at FIS 	<p>Professional Skills - Experiences with the sport</p> <p>Personal Skills - Decision making - Socialable - Empathetic - English language Skills - Communication</p>	<p>Moodle Testing Written Exam</p>	<p>Assessment Seminar/Clinic</p>
		<p>Training Process Where they ideally get knowledge and skills</p> <p>Skills: What they need to be able to do</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - E-Learning; Moodle - Para Nordic Classifier Seminar 	<p>Knowledge: What they need to know and be aware of</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Deepen Knowledge about Role of Classifier - Advanced Classification - Assessment methods (medical or technical) - FIS Para Nordic Classification Rules and Regulations - Advanced Observation Assessment 	<p>Outcomes What they need to know and be aware of</p> <p>Skills: What they need to be able to do</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Deepen professional skills - Update the knowledge 	<p>Professional Skills - At least two separate FIS Para Nordic International Classification Assessment methods (medical or technical)</p> <p>Personal Skills - Leadership - Communication - Self-Confidence - Responsibility - Team Management</p>	<p>On - Field Assessment by competency transcript</p>	<p>Assessment Scenario Assessment</p>
		<p>Training Process Where they ideally get knowledge and skills</p> <p>Skills: What they need to be able to do</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Seminar every two years - E-Learning; Moodle 	<p>Knowledge: What they need to know and be aware of</p> <p>Continuously development of FIS LBS</p>	<p>Outcomes What they need to know and be aware of</p> <p>Skills: What they need to be able to do</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Deepen all professional skills - Deepen all personal skills 	<p>Moodle Ahead annual Classifier Updates</p>	<p>Keeping the License Seminar/Clinic/Competition</p>	<p>On - Field Competition</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Classify at least once every two seasons at an International Classification opportunity
		<p>Generally, it has to be in the interest of the Classifier to keep the license and thus, keep record about when to participate in the Seminar. For the yearly online updates, Moodle will send automated notifications.</p>					



2. Summary of Para Cross-Country Classifier Education

2.1 Application Process

In general, a Para Classifier must have:

- a thorough understanding of Para Cross-Country Skiing and the sports rules, including, but not limited to, the International Competition Rules (ICR) for Para Cross-Country, Classification Rules and Regulations, and the Equipment Specifications for Para Cross-Country;
- a thorough understanding of the IPC Athlete Classification Code and International Standards and the FIS Code of Ethics;
- the professional qualifications, level of experience and other skills, competencies, and/or abilities as defined under the Medical and/or Technical Classifier profiles;
- an appropriate level of English to conduct the Classification process;
- effective interpersonal and teamwork skills; and
- effective decision-making skills.

In addition, a **Medical Classifier** must have:

- a medical qualification as a physician who has experience in dealing with Underlying Health Conditions that may lead to an Eligible Impairment catered for by Para Cross-Country; or
- a physiotherapy qualification or other related disciplines with experience of individuals with the clinical manifestations of the Eligible Impairments catered for by Para Cross-Country; and
- a requisite level of anatomical, biomechanical and sport-specific expertise in the sport of (adaptive) Nordic skiing.

In addition, a **Technical Classifier** must have:

- at least a foundational knowledge of the activity limitation provoked by the Eligible Impairments in Para Cross-Country; and
- wide coaching experience or qualification in Para Cross-Country coaching, physical education, sport sciences, biomechanics, kinesiology, or reputable academic qualification with a working knowledge of Para Cross-Country
- Ideally, technical classifiers will also have an extensive Para sport background.

Applicants may be recruited from active members of the FIS or NSA who fulfil the above-listed criteria and show a strong interest in the world of Para Winter Sports. However, in compliance with the IPC Classification Code and [International Standard for Classification Personnel and Training](#), they must not have any conflict of interest. This means that Para Classifiers must not have any direct or indirect interests or relationships with any individuals that might affect, or be reasonably understood by others as affecting, the Classifiers objectivity, judgement, or conduct in carrying out their Classification responsibilities.

In order to manage actual, perceived, or potential conflicts of interest, it is not permitted for the following persons to (i) commence practical training to become a Classifier (i.e., they cannot participate in any Evaluation Sessions e.g., as a Trainee Classifier); (ii) receive or keep their Certification as a Classifier; or (iii) act as a Head of Classification:

- an international athlete who is currently competing in any Para sport, or who has retired from the same Para sport less than four years ago;
- a national team coach or national team assistant coach involved in the same Para sport, or who has retired from the same Para sport less than four years ago; or
- other Athlete Support Personnel in the same Para sport with direct involvement with the national team or international athletes, or who have retired from such involvement in the

same Para sport less than two years ago (including but not limited to a team physiotherapist, medical doctor, psychologist, massage therapist).

Individuals who meet the above-mentioned qualifications and experience, have no conflict of interest, and are interested in becoming a Para Classifier are invited to contact paracrosscountry@fis-ski.com. A formal call for applications will also be published in advance of any FIS Para Cross-Country Classifier Seminar, which is held every two years.

2.2 Applicant Phase

The Applicant must:

- Study the online course “Welcome to FIS”
- Study the online course “How do we work at FIS”
- Study the course “[IPC Classification Fundamentals online course](#)”
- Prove necessary English skills
- Pass the online Multiple-Choice exam (FIS and IPC)

2.3 Candidate Phase

First year:

The Candidate must:

- attend the Para Cross-Country Classifier Seminar
- participate in the online learning on Moodle
- pass a theoretical exam and an assessment by competency script

Second and Third Year (to be completed in 2-3 seasons)

- participate in at least two separate FIS Para Cross-Country International Classification Opportunities
- pass an assessment by competency script

2.4 Licensed Phase

In general, the Para Cross-Country Classifier License is valid for 4 years.

The Licensed Para Cross-Country Classifier must:

- Attend annual Classifier Updates
- Actively participate in workshops or recertification seminars
- Prove active engagement in Para Classifier work. In detail, Para Classifiers must carry out at least one classification assignment at an international classification opportunity every two seasons.

A Para Classifier license will be revoked if the Para Classifier fails to work as an assigned Para Classifier for two consecutive years or fails to attend any necessary Classifier updates, workshops or recertification seminars without justified cause.

3. Training and Education Opportunities

3.1 Classifier Seminar

FIS will organise a Classifier Seminar at least every other year. NSAs may also request FIS to host Classifier Seminars for the purpose of training National Classifiers at the expense of the NSA. The Classifier Seminar is delivered as either a face-to-face course (usually three days) or as part of a series of online seminars.

Upon successful completion of the Classifier Seminar, all participants are expected to have the knowledge and competencies required to carry out national Classification.

The Classifier Seminar will include:

- Theoretical sessions
- Practical assessment training

- Simulated Classification situations
- Video observation

The learning objectives of the Classifier Seminar are to:

- Know the role of a Classifier
- Understand and apply the conceptual basis of Classification
- Have a clear understanding of the FIS Para Cross-Country Classification Rules and Regulations
- Understand and accurately conduct the relevant Eligible Impairment and Minimum Impairment Criteria assessments
- Understand how the Technical Assessment contributes to the allocation of a Sport Class
- Understand and accurately conduct Observation Assessment
- Understand the Sport Class Profiles
- Know how to communicate Classification outcomes
- Understand the risks in Classification

Following the Classifier Seminar, successful Candidates will participate in some or all the components of Classification under the supervision of a Classification Panel to develop the necessary Classifier competencies to achieve the Classifier License.

3.2 Classifier Updates

Licensed Classifiers participate in regular updates, held online, before and after each season. These sessions, typically led by the Head of Classification and the FIS Office, provide important information on rule changes, review case studies, and share best practices to support consistent and fair athlete evaluations.

3.3 E-Learning

The overall FIS education strategy considers a blended-learning approach. As such, all applicants, candidates and licensed Para Classifier have access to the FIS E-Learning Platform Moodle (www.edu.fis-ski.com). Moodle is intended to provide a platform for self-regulated e-learning at the discretion of the user. Additionally, it supports the in-person and/or guided e-learning process with supplementary information and learning tools.

4. Governance of the Para Classifier Education

The education and certification of Para Classifiers is the responsibility of FIS. FIS appoints a Head of Classification for Para Cross-Country. The Head of Classification is responsible for the direction, administration, coordination and implementation of Classification matters for Para Cross-Country, including, recruiting and appointing Classifiers and organising and conducting Classifier education, training, Certification and Re-Certification.