

MEMORANDUM: Cross Country Para-Athlete Authorization Form
TO: Athletic Director / Cross Country Coach
FROM: Justin Kesterson
SUBJECT: Para-Athlete Divisions State Cross Country Championships

The WIAA member schools and the state cross country meet management are excited to continue offering para-athlete divisions at the 2026 State XC meet in Pasco. It is important that students of all abilities have the opportunity to compete in interscholastic activities within our schools. To this end it is imperative that each school sending a competitor(s) take the time to make sure that each athlete is eligible under both WIAA and school rules. All athletes are required to demonstrate compliance with those rules of eligibility in Article 18 of the WIAA Handbook and any corresponding school rules and regulations.

***A wheelchair athlete is anyone with a permanent physical disability. A statement of disability must be verified by a licensed physician and maintained on permanent file at the school.**

***An ambulatory athlete shall have a permanent orthopedic, neuromuscular or other physical disability. An intellectual disability would qualify the athlete for the Unified Division. The ambulatory division will include Visual Impairment, Cerebral Palsy, Dwarfism, Amputees and similar physical disabilities. Permanent orthopedic impairment shall be verified by a licensed physician and maintained on permanent file at the school. Ambulatory athletes will run at the same time as the Unified Division along the same 2-mile course, but will be scored separately.**

Please Submit by October 16, 2026

Name of Athlete: _____ Gender: _____ Grade: _____

School Name: _____ WIAA Classification: _____ WIAA District: _____

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Wheelchair Division

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Ambulatory Division

Ambulatory Division Impairment: _____

Accommodation Required: _____

*All ambulatory competitors must qualify to the state meet through the qualifying meet procedure. **The ambulatory athlete must meet or exceed the minimum standards established by the WIAA at the district meet.** The standards are as follows:*

2-mile race = 24:00 minutes

3-mile race = 39:00 minutes

5k race = 40:18 minutes

Completed applications should be e-mailed to the WIAA:

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