



State Allocations

2026-2027



WASHINGTON INTERSCHOLASTIC ACTIVITIES ASSOCIATION

WIAA ALLOCATION PROCESS

- 2026-27 is the First of a two-year allocation cycle
- Schools must provide accurate information (teams and individual participants) to District Directors - Check with League President/District Director on Specific Process
- Allocations posted on WIAA website after approval by District Directors & WIAA Executive Board
- Fall: **October**
- Winter: **December**
- Spring: **March**
- **Fall Golf & Tennis: Allocations finalized in the spring**

WIAA ALLOCATION PROCESS

- Steps: WIAA Handbook rule 25.0.0
- Number of schools in each classification determined for each sport during the counting window.
Fall – Three week window, Winter/Spring - Two week window
- Allocation formula used to determine allocations for a two-year cycle in each classification
- Allocations are assigned to WIAA Districts
- Districts may combine their allocations if they so choose (Will be combined automatically if the two-year allocation is less than 1.6)
- Any addition/deletion of sports after the counting week window will not change allocations

WIAA ALLOCATION PROCESS - INDIVIDUAL SPORTS

- Individual sports have a minimum number of participants required in order for the school to be included in the total school count for allocation purposes in its classification. The minimum count is taken anytime during the counting window of the sports season for that sport during the first year of the allocation cycle.
- Bowling - 5
- Cross Country - 5
- Golf - 5
- Gymnastics - 5
- Swimming - 4
- Tennis - 3
- Track - 5
- Wrestling - 8

WIAA ALLOCATION PROCESS - EQUITABLE ENTRY

- The size of the number of entries into the state tournament would be determined by the number of schools that offer that sport in that classification
- An approximate ratio of 4:1 (schools in the classification to number of entries into the state tournament) would be used to determine the size of the state tournament.

- Number of Schools: Number of State Tournament Entries:

84+ 24

68-83 20

44-67 16

30-43 12

18-29 8

17 or less Combined with the smallest classification above or below



Classifications

2026-2027



WASHINGTON INTERSCHOLASTIC ACTIVITIES ASSOCIATION

WIAA CLASSIFICATION PROCESS

2028-32 Classification Process:

- Classification Committee - Still Finalizing Details - Specifically around ALE
- Classification Trainings during the Fall
- Questions to Be Answered

WIAA CLASSIFICATION PROCESS

4.0.0 CLASSIFICATION OF SCHOOLS:

4.1.0 DATES FOR CLASSIFICATION OF HIGH SCHOOLS: All high schools are to be classified according to enrollment in grades 9-11 (schools new to the WIAA will take the average of their estimated enrollment for their first two years).

Q & A 4.1.1 The P-223 **Headcount** enrollment figures as sent to the Office of Superintendent of Public Instruction (OSPI) will be used for classification purposes.

4.1.2 The classification year is the calendar year prior to the first year of the four-year classification cycle.

4.1.3 A school's classification is determined by the average monthly enrollment from January ¹ through May ¹, October ¹, and twice the November ¹ count of odd-numbered years, and will be the basis for classification for the next four years.

NOTE: For the 2028-32 Classification Cycle, a school's classification is determined by the average monthly enrollment from January through May and three times the October count.

- The count for the 2028-32 classification cycle will begin in January of 2027
- The count for the 2032-36 classification cycle will begin in January of 2031
- The count for the 2036-40 classification cycle will begin in January of 2035

WIAA CLASSIFICATION PROCESS

4.2.2 Students must be counted in their school of residence unless they are enrolled in a separately established Member School. Member Schools in this situation must attempt to gain League affiliation and demonstrate a two-year history of participation in the number of WIAA-sanctioned activities comparable to other WIAA Member Schools of the same enrollment.

Q & A 4.2.2.1

For students enrolled in an Alternative Learning Experience (ALE) or Parent Partnership program:

A. ALE programs are not considered separate WIAA member schools.

B. ALE students who participate in interscholastic athletics or activities shall be counted toward the enrollment of the WIAA Member School where they participate.

C. ALE students who do not participate in interscholastic athletics, activities, or clubs shall not be included in any school's classification count.

D. When ALE programs serve students from multiple districts, enrollment shall be attributed to the school where the student competes, consistent with WIAA definition 18.6.5 ("school of residence").

WIAA CLASSIFICATION PROCESS - Q & A's

Q & A: Is FTE or Headcount used for counting purposes? **Headcount is utilized for the monthly enrollment**

Q & A: How are ALE students counted for allocation purposes....? **TBD**

Q & A: If a member school joins the Association after the classification count what process is used to determine the school count for classification purposes? **Great Question**

Q & A: Are full-time Running Start Students counted in the classification process? No, full-time Running Start students and homeschool students who do not take at least one class at a school are not counted for classification purposes. If a student takes one or more classes at a school and also does Running Start, they are counted for classification purposes. (Based on Committee Discussion)

WIAA CLASSIFICATION PROCESS - TIMELINE

- August 2026-November 2026: Classification Committee/Executive Board will review classification ranges (Balancing) - Classification Updates for Membership (Zoom/WIAA Wed./Email)
- January 2027 - Start of Classification Counting - May, October
- October 2027: Final Count Month - October is Counted Three Times
- November 2027: Enrollment Counts available to Membership
- December 2027: Deadline for Schools to Declare Opt-up and/or Notification of Intent to Appeal Classification
- *January 2028: WIAA Executive Board Approves Classification Numbers and Range Balancing (if needed)
- January 2028-August 2028: Schools can begin league alignment process/sport schedule planning
August 2028: 2028-32 Classification Cycle Begins
- *Reviewing possibility of Approving Classifications earlier than January 2028