

IPC Swimming Classifier Criteria

To be eligible to begin the training as an IPC Swimming Classifier, all candidates must be able to show evidence of one of the following criteria, as this will determine the nature of classifier that they become:

Medical Background

- A recognized professional qualification in Medicine or Physiotherapy

Technical Background

- A recognized qualification in Exercise, Sport Science or Physical Education with major study area 'swimming'
- An appropriate nationally recognized Swimming coaching qualification

These are purely the basic background qualifications or accreditations that are necessary. In addition, all candidates should have appropriate experience and competency in working with athletes who have impairment.

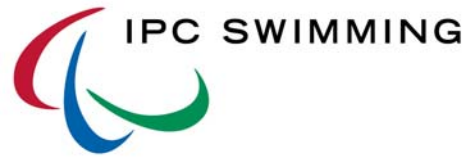
Additionally:

- All candidates must have a sufficient knowledge of the English language (as this is the official communication language within the sport of IPC Swimming).
- All applicants must have the backing of their National Paralympic Committee prior to attendance at their first seminar.
- But, perhaps THE most important competency of a classifier is to recognize that the person you are examining is an athlete and not a patient.

Once your on-line training is completed successfully, you will be able to generate your certificate electronically (stage 1 of the pathway).

As a successful 'candidate' classifier you must then apply to attend a 2-3 day IPC Swimming classification seminar (stage 2 of the pathway).

At this seminar the main emphasis will be on competency training. This will involve practical work, with and without athletes. Throughout the course of the seminar, candidate classifiers will be assessed by means of a Competency Transcript by the Course Educators.



Upon successful completion of this seminar your name will be added to the IPC Trainee Classifier Database, and you will be entitled to name yourself 'IPC Swimming Trainee Classifier'. A certificate will be issued.

The final stage of your 'Classifier' pathway is your work through face-to-face learning at IPC Swimming recognized events (stage 3 of the pathway). This means that Trainee Classifiers will be appointed to international IPC Swimming Classification panels and participate in athlete assessments (classification).

Assessment at the competition will be made by the Educators and they will look into more detail on how you manifest a number of competencies, including assessment and analytical skills, reasoning skills, communication skills and administrative & documentation skills. In addition, the Educator will also have to take into consideration your personal attributes including professionalism, time management and appearance.

Following the assessment, the Educator will decide whether or not you have successfully accomplished the expectations for each competency based on standard testing criteria. If so, the Educator will inform the IPC Swimming representative in charge of Classifier Training who will then elevate you to Level 1 Classifier status. You are now an official IPC Swimming Classifier. You will be added to the international classifier database and will then be eligible for full participation as panel member in future IPC Swimming International Classification Panels.

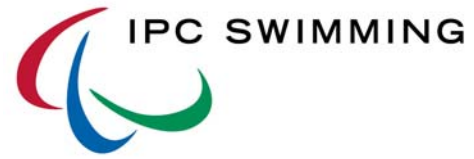
Your license will be valid for a maximum of 4 years, after which time you will have to participate in a re-certification course.

To obtain a Level 2 Classifier Status, a Level 1 classifier will need to have affiliated in at least 2 major IPC Swimming events which along with their other work may be supported by presenting a written record / portfolio of continuing classification involvement.

You will also need to attend additional training seminars, at which themes related to communication, leadership, administration and 'code of conduct' matters are further elaborated in a face-to-face manner.

At this stage, training will be completed purely through face to face learning by Educators. Throughout the training, you will be 'examined' on the different competencies required. Successful candidates will then hold the title of 'IPC Swimming Level 2 Classifier'.

IPC Swimming further works out specific modules for those senior classifiers that want to take leadership roles, such as Chief Classifier or Classifier Educator.



Finally:

- All practicing classifiers are expected to classify at an IPC Swimming sanctioned event at least once every 2 years to retain their classification status on the IPC Swimming database.
- All practicing classifiers will need to update their knowledge and skills through attendance at seminar / workshop update sessions, upon request.
- Classifiers sign of the Undertaking as IPC Swimming Official which implies that they adhere by the rules and act in compliance with the IPC Code of Ethics and the IPC handbook.