



Northwest Association for Blind Athletes

Athlete/Group/Team Scholarship Policy

Introduction: The Northwest Association for Blind Athletes (NWABA) shall award scholarships to groups, teams or individuals who compete in local, regional, national or international sporting events. Scholarships may be awarded for equipment, entry fees, training, or other fees associated with participation in athletic and/or recreational endeavors.

Eligibility:

- All applicants must be blind or visually impaired as defined by the United States Association of Blind Athletes. (see page 2)
- All applicants must be a registered athlete of the Northwest Association for Blind Athletes
- All applicants must submit a completed NWABA Scholarship Application. This application must be received by NWABA a minimum of 30 days prior to the event in order to be considered by the NWABA Board of Directors for approval.
- All recipients of NWABA scholarships must participate in the program/event for which a scholarship is awarded **AND** provide a brief impact statement to NWABA within 30 days following the event. The impact statement should address how participation in the program/event has impacted the individual or group awarded the scholarship. We love receiving pictures of your accomplishments once you have completed the event.
- Failure to participate in the event/program for which a scholarship was awarded will result in the individual or group being asked to return the scholarship to NWABA. Failure to return the scholarship may result in a referral to a collection agency and/or exclusion from future consideration of scholarship requests. Failure to complete the impact statement may also exclude you or your group from future scholarship consideration.
- The policy of the Northwest Association for Blind Athletes is to provide equal opportunity and equal consideration to all peoples without regard to race, religion, ancestry, national origin, sexual orientation, color, creed, sex, age or physical disability.



Visual Classifications

Class B1: No light perception in either eye up to light perception, but inability to recognize the shape of a hand at any distance or in any direction.

Class B2: From ability to recognize the shape of a hand up to visual acuity of 20/600 and/or a visual field of less than 5 degrees in the best eye with the best practical eye correction.

Class B3: From visual acuity above 20/600 and up to visual acuity of 20/200 and/or a visual field of less than 20 degrees and more than 5 degrees in the best eye with the best practical eye correction.

Class B4*: From visual acuity above 20/200 and up to visual acuity of 20/70 and a visual field larger than 20 degrees in the best eye with the best practical eye correction.

*This classification is recognized by USABA, but not by the ISBA. Thus, persons who fall into the B4 category will not be eligible for international competitions.