



# UK & International Classification For People with Learning Disability

## Guide for Psychologists

Any Psychologist approached to provide assessments or evidence to accompany an athlete's classification application at UK or international (INAS-FID) level is advised to read the following guide and the athlete classification pages at [www.uksportsassociation.org](http://www.uksportsassociation.org) before embarking upon the process.

### **1. Qualifications**

Those endorsing or carrying out new assessments for UK or international (INAS-FID) classification assessments must be a professional psychologist and have a valid registration with the Health Professions Council ([www.hpc-uk.org](http://www.hpc-uk.org)). All applications received at the UKSA office should include:

- HPC Registration Number
- Registration status
- Start and End date of current registration

Psychologists are no longer required by UKSA to be "Chartered" for the purposes of classification.

### **2. Definition of Learning Disability/Intellectual Disability**

UKSA is bound by the rules of INAS-FID. The Primary Eligibility Criteria used by INAS-FID is based upon the American Association on Intellectual and Developmental Disability (AAIDD, 2002) definition of intellectual disability which is consistent with that of the World Health Organisation (WHO, ICD-10 and ICF, 2001), and states:

*"Intellectual Disability is a disability characterised by significant limitation both in intellectual functioning and in adaptive behaviour as expressed in conceptual, social and practical adaptive skills. This disability originates before the age of 18"*

### **3. Primary Eligibility Criteria**

- a) Significant impairment in intellectual functioning. This is defined as 2 standard deviations below the mean, that is, a Full Scale score of 75 or lower.
- b) Significant limitations in adaptive behaviour as expressed in conceptual, social, and practical adaptive skills. This is defined as performance that is at least 2 standard deviations below the mean of, either:
  - i) One of the following 3 types of adaptive behaviour: conceptual, social, or practical skills
  - ii) An overall score on a standardised measure of conceptual, social and practical skills.
- c) Intellectual disability must be evident during the developmental period, which is from conception to 18 years of age

#### **4. Acceptable Evidence and Tests**

Intellectual functioning must be measured using an internationally recognised and professionally administered IQ test. The most recently standardised variations of the following are recognized by INAS-FID:

- Wechsler Intelligence Scales – WISC (for children aged 6-16) or WAIS (for adults aged 16-90), for example HAWIE, SSAIS and MAWIE etc
- Stanford-Binet (for ages 2-85+)
- Raven Matrices

The psychologist must provide a report that:

- a) Is presented on formal letter-headed paper including Psychologists name and qualifications.
- b) Psychologists membership number and details of professional bodies
- c) Address, phone/fax number and email address
- d) States when and where the assessment was done (ie. date, location)
- e) States the name and version of the test used.
- f) Includes a detailed commentary/assessment of each sub-test area
- g) States the results of the tests, showing clearly the sub test scores and full scale IQ
- h) Includes a copy of the summary sheet/record form showing all scores
- i) If a new assessment is being carried out an original report with original signature must be submitted.
- j) The assessment and report must be no more than 5 years old.

Adaptive Behaviour must be measured using a formal standardised measure that has been norm-referenced on the general population including people with disabilities e.g. Vineland Adaptive Behaviour Scales, ABAS or AAMR Adaptive Behaviour Scales.

The psychologist should provide a report that:

- a) Is presented on formal letter-headed paper including Psychologists name and qualifications
- b) Psychologists membership number and details of professional bodies
- c) Address, phone/fax number and email address
- d) States when and where the assessment was done (ie. date, location)
- e) States the name and version of the test used.
- f) Includes a summary under each domain including: Communication; Self-care; Self-direction; Social/interpersonal skills; Ability to respond to life changes and environmental demand
- g) Includes a clear summary/final diagnosis stating clearly whether the person has significant limitations in Adaptive Behaviour.
- h) Includes a copy of the summary sheet showing all scores
- i) If a new assessment is being carried out an original report with original signature must be submitted.
- j) The assessment and report must be no more than 5 years old.

Age of Onset must be demonstrated by an IQ test conducted before the Age of 18, or by a signed declaration from a current psychologist stating clearly the evidence on which the diagnosis of age of onset pre-18 is based.

Short form IQ assessments are not acceptable for International Classification. Evidence such as an individual having attended a special school is not considered direct evidence of intellectual disability but could form part of the background evidence supplied or relied upon.

For UK Classification there are variations on this guide, therefore please read the guidance notes produced on the UKSA website for UK Classification too. For more information on UK and International Classification log onto [www.uksportsassociation.org](http://www.uksportsassociation.org) or telephone UKSA on 0207 490 3057.