

18. Classification System – 2007-08

The IHSA Board of Directors has approved the following system for classifying all member high schools in IHSA-sponsored state activities:

1. The classification of a school shall be determined annually on the basis of its total student enrollment figure reported to the Illinois State Board of Education in its Fall Housing Report on September 30 of the preceding school year. Non-boundaried schools will have their total student enrollment multiplied by 1.65.
2. Schools are required to submit to the IHSA, by October 30, their total student enrollment figure reported to the Illinois State Board of Education in their Fall Housing Report on September 30, 2006. The figures will be confirmed with the use of ISBE data in the spring each year.
3. When two or more schools in the same school district participate in a combined interscholastic program under a single membership in the Association, the total student enrollment figures included on the Fall Housing Reports on September 30 of the preceding school year for all the schools involved shall be combined and the host school shall be classified on the basis of this combined total student enrollment figure.
4. When two or more schools operate an approved cooperative program in any sport, the total student enrollment figures included in the Fall Housing Reports on September 30 of the preceding school year for all the schools involved shall be combined and the host school shall be classified on the basis of this combined total enrollment figure in the sports or activities for which the coop is approved.
5. When two or more schools consolidate, the total student enrollment figures included in the Fall Housing Reports on September 30 of the preceding school year for all the schools involved in the consolidation shall be combined and the consolidated school shall be classified on the basis of this combined total student enrollment figure.
6. When a school joins the Association, and that school enrolled students during the previous school term, the total student enrollment figure used for classification purposes for that school shall be the total student enrollment figure reported to the Illinois State Board of Education in the Fall Housing Report on September 30 of the preceding school year.
7. When a school joins the Association, and that school did not enroll students during the previous school term, the total student enrollment figure used for classification purposes shall be the total student enrollment figure reported to the Illinois State Board of Education in the Fall Housing Report on September 30 of the current school year. Prior to September 30, an unofficial figure obtained from the school district may be used by the IHSA for planning purposes.
8. When a school (or several schools) loses students due to the opening of a new school or schools in the same school district, or due to the deannexation of a major portion of the school district, the total student enrollment figures used for classification purposes shall be the total student enrollment figures reported to the Illinois State Board of Education in the Fall Housing Report on September 30 of the current school year. Prior to September 30, an unofficial figure obtained from the school district may be used by the IHSA for planning purposes.
9. When a school (or several schools) gains students due to the closing of a school or schools in the same school district, or due to the deactivation of a neighboring school district, the total student enrollment figures used for classification purposes shall be the total student enrollment figures reported to the Illinois State Board of Education in the Fall Housing Report on September 30 of the current school year. Prior to September 30, an unofficial figure obtained from the school district may be used by the IHSA for planning purposes.

10. For classification purposes, the total student enrollments for one-year high schools, two-year high schools, three-year high schools and high schools which enroll boys only or girls only shall be calculated as follows:
 - a. For one-year high schools, the total student enrollment figure reported shall be quadrupled.
 - b. For two-year high schools, the total student enrollment figure reported shall be doubled.
 - c. For three-year high schools, one-third of the total student enrollment figure shall be added to the total student enrollment figure reported.
 - d. For schools which enroll boys only or girls only, the total student enrollment figure reported shall be doubled.
11. A multiplier of 1.65 will be applied to all non-boundaried schools.
12. Schools participating in sports and activities operating under the original two-class system shall be classified as follows:
 - a. Schools with enrollments of 724.35 and below will be Class A (55.55% of the membership).
 - b. Schools with enrollments 724.36 and above will be Class AA (44.44% of the membership).
 - c. During the 2007-08 school term, the following sports and activities shall operate under this system: boys soccer, boys track and field, boys wrestling, girls golf, girls soccer, girls track and field and Scholastic Bowl.
13. Schools participating in sports and activities operating under the three-class system shall be classified as follows:
 - a. Schools with enrollments of 603.09 and below will be Class 1A (50% of the membership).
 - b. Schools with enrollments of 603.10-1508.00 will be Class 2A (25% of the membership).
 - c. Schools with enrollments of 1508.01-above will be Class 3A (25% of the membership).
 - d. During the 2007-08 school term, the following sports and activities shall operate under this system: boys cross country, girls cross country and boys golf.
14. Schools participating in sports and activities operating under the four-class system shall be classified as follows:
 - a. Schools with enrollments of 350.00 and below will be Class 1A (33.33% of the membership).
 - b. Schools with enrollments of 350.01-724.35 will be Class 2A (22.22% of the membership).
 - c. Schools with enrollments of 724.36-1658.00 will be Class 3A (22.22% of the membership).
 - d. Schools with enrollments of 1658.01-above will be Class 4A (22.22% of the membership).

- e. During the 2007-08 school term, the following sports and activities shall operate under this system: boys baseball, boys basketball, girls basketball, girls softball and girls volleyball.
15. Petition for Variance: Not later than April 1 of a given year, the principal/official representative of an IHSA member high school may submit a letter of application to the Executive Director for approval of a variance in a school's total student enrollment figure used for classification purposes if:
- a. There is an anticipated, verifiable twenty percent (20%) or more decrease (or increase) in total student enrollment for the ensuing school year for reasons deemed acceptable by the Board of Directors of the IHSA.
 - b. A high school houses out-of-district secondary special education students as verified by signed affidavits from the home high school principals. Such special education students shall then be counted in the total student enrollment figure(s) used for classification purposes at their home high school(s).
 - c. If such variance is approved by the Executive Director, the varied total student enrollment figure approved for a school shall be the enrollment figure used for classification purposes for that school during the ensuing school year.
14. Playing Up in Classification Policy
- a. IHSA member schools may petition the Association to play up in classification.
 - b. The Executive Director will approve such requests provided schools meet the following criteria:
 - * The request is received in the IHSA office by September 1.
 - * The request is for a minimum of 2 years.
 - * In football, the school must specify the class they intend to participate in should the school qualify for the IHSA Football Playoffs. In all cases, the request must be for a classification equal to or higher than the class they qualify for based on their IHSA Football enrollment.
 - * In all other sports or activities (excluding music and competitive cheer), requests to play up in classification must be for the school's entire interscholastic program in each class. For example, if a school petitions to move up from 3A to 4A, all of the school's interscholastic programs in 3A must move to 4A.
 - * In music and competitive cheer, the school must specify the class in which they intend to participate. In all cases, the request must be for a classification equal to or higher than the class they qualify for based on their official IHSA enrollment.