



Qualifying vs Non-Qualifying Categories – What’s the Difference?

Qualifying and Non-Qualifying categories will be offered at all Provincial Series events. Please continue reading for a full list of Qualifying and Non-Qualifying categories.

When you compete in a **Qualifying** category, your competition score is eligible to be tracked towards qualifying for the Skate Ontario Provincial Championships. Skaters may compete in a qualifying category even if they do not wish to qualify for the Provincial Championships. Qualifying categories tend to have larger group sizes than non-qualifying categories which may be preferable to some skaters. If you wish to have an opportunity to qualify for the Skate Ontario Provincial Championships, you **must** register in a Qualifying category. Please note, Skate Ontario cannot guarantee group sizes, and actual group sizes will vary based on registration.

When you compete in a **Non-Qualifying** category, your competition score is not eligible to be tracked towards qualifying for the Skate Ontario Provincial Championships. Non-Qualifying categories are intended for skaters who are not interested in qualifying for the Provincial Championships and may wish to compete in smaller groups. Skaters may also wish to use the event as a “warm-up” or “practice event” prior to competing at another event in which they have registered for a qualifying category. Non-qualifying categories tend to have smaller group sizes than qualifying categories which may be preferable to some skaters. Please note, Skate Ontario cannot guarantee group sizes, and actual group sizes will vary based on registration.

Which categories will be offered as “Qualifying” in the Provincial Series?

Any category that will be offered at the Skate Ontario Provincial Championships we be offered as a qualifying category in the Provincial Series. These categories will include STAR 5-Gold, Pre-Juvenile/Juvenile, and Pre-Novice/Novice in Free Skate, Ice Dance, and Pair, as well as STAR 5-Gold Artistic. Junior and Senior categories will not be offered in the Provincial Series or at the Skate Ontario Provincial Championships.

Which categories will be offered as “Non-Qualifying” in the Provincial Series?

Based on an annual post event calendar review and registration data, Skate Ontario will offer the following Non-Qualifying categories in the Provincial Series: **STAR 5, 6, and 7 Free Skate in all age categories, as well as STAR 5 and 7 Artistic.** Skaters who compete in these categories are not eligible to have their scores tracked.



Can I still complete the Provincial Series Assignment Process Survey if I plan to compete in Non-Qualifying categories?

Absolutely! Any eligible skater wishing to compete at a Provincial Series event may complete the survey.

How do I know the difference between Qualifying and Non-Qualifying categories when I register?

Non-Qualifying categories will have the letters “**NQ**” in the category description. For example, STAR 5 O13 Women **NQ**, STAR 6 Men **NQ**, STAR 5 Artistic **NQ**.