



2024 LPGA Playing Ability Test (PAT) Requirements

This document contains the following information:

1. PAT Exemptions
2. PAT Requirements
3. PAT Equivalency

Students are not required to complete or submit PAT information before starting the Teacher Education Program Courses. The Level I online course may be started before the PAT requirement has been submitted. For questions regarding the PAT requirement, please email LPGA Headquarters at professionals.edu@lpga.com.

PAT requirements may be met by taking either an LPGA PAT or submitting a PAT Exemption or Equivalency. PAT Equivalency rounds must have been taken within twelve months before the date of your application to the LPGA and meet the LPGA PAT course and scoring requirements.

Playing Ability Test (PAT) Exemptions

Collegiate Golfers: See PAT Equivalency

LPGA Tour Players: Current and former members of the LPGA Tour are exempt from the PAT.

LPGA Epon Tour Players: Current members of the LPGA Epon Tour are exempt from the PAT requirement. Former Epon Tour members are also exempt if the most recent season of play was within eight (8) years of applying for membership with the LPGA Professionals. Must submit playing history.

Other LPGA Tours:

1. Current full members of the Korea LPGA (KLPGA), China LPGA (CLPGA), and Japan LPGA (JLPGA) must submit tournament records showing play within the past eight (8) years on their respective tour.
2. Semi-professional members of the KLPGA, CLPGA, and JLPGA must submit tournament scoring records within the past year (12 months).
3. KLPGA and JLPGA teaching members are not exempt from the PAT requirement.

PGA Class A members: Current dues-paying Class A members of the PGA are exempt from the PAT requirement.

LPGA Playing Ability Test Requirements

A Round of Play – One round of 18 holes on a course not less than 5,100 yards.

A Target Score of:

The course rating plus 13 for participants 49 years of age or less, **or**
The course rating plus 15 for participants 50 years of age or above.

Be completed within the 12 months immediately preceding the date of the LPGA membership application or within 12 months of starting the application process.

AMATEURS ONLY - Must prove a handicap of 12 or better when applying. For the USGA rules regarding Amateur Status, please click here: [Amateur Status](#).

[LPGA Playing Ability Test \(PAT\)](#) Registration is available at [PAT Registration](#) (select PAT under the Categories menu).

Individuals taking the LPGA PAT will be required to:

1. **Provide proof of age and a photo ID** to the PAT administrator before taking the PAT;
2. Pay a registration fee of **\$100 per attempt**.

[Playing Ability Test \(PAT\) Equivalency](#)

The PAT equivalency may be met by one of the following means. The submitted information must meet the LPGA PAT guidelines and are subject to review and approval by LPGA Headquarters.

1. The first round of play for individuals taking the **PGA Playing Ability Test (PGA PAT)**; however, individuals must complete both rounds of play; [PGA PAT Registration](#).
2. The first round of play in an **LPGA Regional or Final Qualifying School**.
3. A qualifying round or first round of play for the **U.S. Women's Open or U.S. Senior Women's Open**.
4. A qualifying round or first round of play for an **LPGA Tour event**.
5. A **college team tournament season** aggregate and last-played tournament score.
6. First round of play for the Women in Golf Foundation Inc., **Women's Collegiate Classic/Championship** within (5) years of the time of application.
7. Certain state or country (if outside the U.S.A.) golf association tournaments.
8. Certain USGA tournaments.

For a PAT equivalency to be accepted, the individual must:

1. **Have completed the round within the 12 months** immediately preceding the date of applying for LPGA membership.
 - **Exceptions** – Collegiate scores can be within (5) years of the time of application.
2. Submit [this form](#) or a **signed letter** from the event tournament official on association letterhead, which includes the following:
 - The date of the event,
 - The course name and location,
 - The official yardage (must be at least 5100 yards) and course rating for the event, and
 - The individual's official score(s) for the event (if more than 18 holes, it must state all rounds, **but only the score for the first 18 holes will count**).
3. A **\$100.00** Administration fee will be added to your application fee to cover PAT administrative fees. Instructions on paying this fee will be emailed upon review and approval of your PAT Equivalency or Application submission.
4. Submit a completed **Proof of Age** if claiming target score of course rating plus 15 for 50 and over.