

## Clark College

### RUNNING START FEE WAIVER POLICY

As of Fall Quarter 2009, Running Start (RS) students must pay all mandatory college and/or student-voted fees as established by the college. RS students must now pay a per credit charge of \$6.75 plus all fees unless they qualify for a free or reduced-priced lunch. The college must waive the per credit charge and “non-consumable” fees for eligible low-income RS students. Please note that charges for “consumables” such as lab supplies and PE towel fees are not considered “fees” and therefore are not eligible to be waived through this policy.

A student will be considered low-income and eligible for a fee waiver upon proof that the student is currently qualified to receive free or reduced-price lunch at their high school. Acceptable documentation of low-income status may also include, but is not limited to, documents which prove any of the following:

- Student has been eligible for free or reduced-price lunch in the last five years
- Student’s family is receiving any state or federal assistance funds
- Student is a foster youth

The student must bring one of the above documents to the Running Start Office in Gaiser Hall before the first day of the quarter to receive a fee waiver for that quarter. The RS staff will review the documentation and approve the fee waiver. A student who provides documentation on or after the first day of the quarter will be eligible for the fee waiver for the following quarter. Students only need to provide documentation once to qualify for the waiver.

#### Student Responsibilities:

- Supply waiver documentation before the first day of the quarter or before their payment due date, whichever comes first
- Notify RS office of family financial changes that may result in waiver eligibility
- Pay mandatory fees by due date

Any questions about the Running Start fee waiver policy should be referred to the Running Start office at (360) 992-2366.

July 13, 2009



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## IMPORTANT NEW LEGISLATION REGARDING THE RUNNING START PROGRAM

You will be paying a per-credit charge plus all fees (including eLearning fees)  
Effective Fall Quarter, 2009

*House Bill 2119, passed by the legislature and signed by the governor, requires Running Start students to pay all mandatory fees as established by each college, just as other college students pay.*

**IMPORTANT: This new law does not affect tuition, just fees.** In the past, Running Start students were not charged the fees that were being paid by other college students. The college has established a process and criteria for granting fee waivers for low income students. See details on the other side.

Beginning Fall Quarter, you will be required to pay ALL fees established by the College. If you have already registered for fall, please take note of the amount due. **Fees have a payment due date. August 21 is the payment due date for students who register by that date. Students who register after August 21 will need to pay by the deadlines established in the official fall schedule of classes, which will be mailed in late July to all Clark County residents. If you don't pay by the due date, you will be dropped from the classes.**

The Running Start (RS) program will continue to pay the tuition for up to 18 credits of college-level classes of eligible high school juniors and seniors. Students must have a cumulative Clark GPA of 3.0 in order to take more than 15 credits. For general comparison, a non-RS student enrolled in 15 credits would pay about \$1,000 per quarter for tuition (WA resident rate). The tuition will still be free for college-level classes for RS.

➤ **NEW--starting with Fall 2009 classes (statewide):**

- **RS students must pay for all class fees and per credit fees as described below.**
- **Fee waivers will be available for low-income RS students who can provide supporting documentation.** At Clark, the granting of a fee waiver is based on a student verifying free or reduced-priced lunch eligibility. Please note that some charges for “consumables” such as lab supplies and PE towel fees are not considered “fees” and therefore are not eligible to be waived through this policy.
- Clark College has determined fees for the 2009-10 school year. Check your schedule online if you aren't sure how much fees you need to pay.

Per Credit Fee: **\$6.75 per credit, up to a maximum of 20 credits** for facilities, matriculation, technology and student union building fees.

eLearning Course Fee: **\$30 per online course; \$15 per “hybrid” course** (partially online, partially face-to-face)

Consumables (Lab Fees): The dollar amount depends on the course and materials used; these fees are shown in the course schedule with the class description.

If you have any questions, please call the RS office at (360) 992-2366 or email [mestes@clark.edu](mailto:mestes@clark.edu).



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