

RUNNING START

Earn Credit at Clark College as a High School Junior or Senior

Running Start (RS) is a program approved by the Washington State Legislature in 1990, which allows high school juniors and seniors to challenge themselves academically by taking classes at a community college. The program allows students with college-level test scores to attend Clark College. Students receive both high school and college credits for successfully completed classes. At the end of each quarter, the student's grades are mailed to the high school and become part of the permanent high school transcript and permanent college transcript. The credit equivalency ratio is 5 college credits = 1 high school credit. Students are limited to college-level classes (numbered 100 and higher). Students are responsible for textbooks, some class fees and transportation to the college. Fees are subject to change. Running Start students must live in Washington.

Eligible students may attend day, evening or online classes. Students may be enrolled part-time or full-time at the college. If a student decides to attend the college on a part-time basis, the student must also attend some classes at the high school in order to meet Washington State attendance guidelines as a full-time student.

Most fees can be waived for low-income Running Start students. A student shall 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, or has been deemed eligible for free or reduced-price lunches in the last five years.

Acceptable documentation of low-income status may also include:

- Proof that the family is receiving any state or federal assistance funds, or
- Proof that the student is a foster youth.

STEPS TO GET STARTED

STEP 1 Apply for Admissions to Clark College online

- **IMPORTANT:** Indicate Running Start as intended area of study on online application
- <https://www.public.ctc.edu/ApplicantWebClient/Applicant/ApplyWelcome.aspx>

STEP 2 Pay a \$25 Non-Refundable Application Fee – can be paid online, in-person at the Cashier or at 360-992-2177

- https://www.clark.edu/admissions/application/p2/web/payment_form.php

STEP 3 Receive your Student ID Number

- Go to the Enrollment Services Office in Gaiser Hall with photo ID to receive it

STEP 4 Submit your proof of qualification to the Running Start office (see options below)

- You will be required to complete a brief Running Start application in the Running Start office
- The Running Start Office is located in Gaiser Hall, room 137
- **Running Start office hours:** Monday - Thursday 8:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m., and Friday 8:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.

YOU MUST HAVE ONE OF THE FOLLOWING TO QUALIFY FOR RUNNING START:

1. Current public or private high school transcript with a cumulative 2.75 G.P.A.
2. Smarter Balanced scores of 3 or 4 on the Math or English tests
3. ALEKS math test score at college level
4. AP score of 3 or higher on an English or Calculus exam
5. English Readiness Assessment if none of the above or homeschooled

For more information, go to www.clark.edu/runningstart.

CLARK COLLEGE

Questions?

Contact the Running Start
Office at
(360) 992-2366.
[www.clark.edu/
runningstart](http://www.clark.edu/runningstart)