



Expanding dual credit opportunities

Bill Number: 2SHB 2119 Effective Date: July 26, 2009

CLARIFICATION of how this bill impacts Washington's community and technical colleges

Summary - The Legislature recognizes the need for a well-prepared workforce and the value of the various dual credit programs to the state, its workforce, and the individual students and their families. It is important to increase the number of students in dual credit programs as well as the availability of the various programs.

Dual Credit Reporting Requirements - By September 1, 2010, and annually thereafter, the Office of the Superintendent of Public Instruction (OSPI), in collaboration with the State Board for Community and Technical Colleges (SBCTC), the Workforce Training and Education Coordinating Board, the Apprenticeship Council, the Higher Education Coordinating Board (HECB), and the public baccalaureate institutions must report to the higher education committees in the Legislature regarding participation in dual credit programs. The report must include the following data, disaggregated by race, ethnicity, gender, and receipt of free or reduced-price lunch:

- student participation rates and academic performance;
- the total unduplicated head count of students enrolled in at least one dual credit program; and
- the percentage of students who enrolled in at least one dual credit program as a percent of all students enrolled in grades 9 through 12.

The SBCTC, in collaboration with the OSPI and institutions of higher education that offer Running Start, is charged with developing long-term funding proposals for Running Start and reporting recommendations to the Legislature by September 1, 2010. A taskforce has been formed led by Denise Graham. [RCW 28A.600.310](#)

College in the High School Rules Development and Governance - The OSPI, the SBCTC, the HECB, and the public baccalaureate institutions must jointly develop, and each adopt, rules governing College in the High School. [RCW 28A.600.290](#) In developing these rules, the Association of Washington School Principals must be consulted. These rules must be written to encourage the maximum use of the program and may not narrow or limit enrollment options. College in the High School programs are to be governed by a local contract between a school district and an institution of higher education. The following requirements apply:

- Student eligibility is determined by the high school and the institution of higher education.
- Tuition may be charged.
- No student may be reported as more than one full-time equivalent.
- Funds received by the institution of higher education may not be deemed tuition or operating fees; they may be retained by the institution.
- Enrollment information must be maintained separately from other information and may not be included in official enrollment reports, and high school students so enrolled may not be considered in any enrollment statistics that would affect higher education budgetary determinations.
- School districts must award high school credit for successful completion, and these credits must be applied toward graduation and subject area requirements.
- Institutions of higher education must grant college credit for successful completion and apply such credit toward general education or major requirements.
- Eleventh and 12th grade students, as well as those who have not yet received a high school diploma and are eligible to be in these grades, may participate.
- Participating school districts must provide information about the College in the High School program to the parents and guardians of 10th, 11th, and 12th graders. OSPI leads this effort. Full-time and part-time faculty at the institutions of higher education are eligible to teach courses in the program.

Disclaimer - Rev date: February 9, 2010

This clarification document is provided as a service to Washington's community and technical colleges by the SBCTC Student Services division. If you have questions, please contact Kayeri Akweks at kawkweks@sbctc.edu or (360) 704-4319. For the latest version, visit http://www.sbctc.edu/college/s_runningstart.aspx

Dual Credit Advising Guidelines

OSPI and the HECB must develop advising guidelines to assure that students and parents understand that college credits earned in high school dual credit programs may impact eligibility for financial aid.

Running Start Program Locations

The Running Start statutes are amended to reflect that such programs are not found just at the community and technical colleges but also may be offered by a public tribal college located in Washington that meets accreditation requirements and by some of the four-year public institutions. [RCW 28A.600.300](#)

Running Start Enrollments

The legislature has established a Running Start enrollment target for the CTC system of 11, 558 FTE-S each year for 2009-10 and 2010-11. The Running Start enrollment target is in addition to the more familiar state-funded enrollment target, which the budget bill refers to as "adult students". Unlike the general enrollment target, the Running Start enrollment target will not be allocated to individual college districts but will instead be met as a system only. Running Start enrollments will remain coded as contract funded, and will continue to be reported by college district in SBCTC quarterly enrollment reports.

State Board Fee Waiver Guidance: 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. Acceptable documentation of low-income status may also include:

- 1) Student has been deemed eligible for free or reduced-price lunches in the last five years
- 2) Family income of equal to or less than 50 percent of the state median
- 3) Family income less than 200 percent of the federal poverty level
- 4) Receiving any state or federal assistance funds
- 5) Foster youth

College Responsibilities:

- 1) Each college must establish a written policy for determination of low-income Running Start students. Eligibility for free or reduced lunch must be one qualifying status.
- 2) The Running Start Coordinator or designate will review the documentation and approve fee waiver at time of initial advising or thereafter for family financial changes. Running Start students should not be asked to fill out the FAFSA to establish eligibility.
- 3) At time of registration, Running Start students receiving a waiver will be identified by the Fee Pay Status code 50. *Note: Running Start students not eligible for low-income waiver are coded to Fee Pay Status 54.*

Student Responsibilities:

- 1) Supply waiver documentation at time of advising and no later than the first class day.
- 2) Notify Running Start Coordinator or designee of family financial changes that may result in waiver eligibility.
- 3) Pay mandatory fees if not eligible for low-income waiver.

Dual Credit Programs

A variety of education programs allow high school students to earn post-secondary course credit while also earning credit toward high school graduation. Students who participate in these dual credit programs have the opportunity to graduate from high school with all or a portion of college course work already completed as well as to enhance their chances of entry into a chosen trade or profession.

These programs include:

- Running Start
- College in the High School
- Tech Prep
- Advanced Placement and International Baccalaureate
- Running Start for the Trades

2SHB 2119 Sponsors:
House Committee on Ways & Means
(originally sponsored by Representatives Wallace, Carlyle, Sullivan, Morrell, Quall, Santos and Ormsby)

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