

WHAT IS RUNNING START?

*Washington State's Running Start program allows high school juniors and seniors to take **TUITION FREE** classes at [College name]. Credits transfer to 2 and 4-year community and technical colleges across Washington State so students can live wherever they want or stay close-to-home. Many graduate high school with a high school diploma **AND** an associate degree or career-focused certification at the same time!*

KEY BENEFITS

- Running Start students pay **NO TUITION** for the college classes they take, though certain fees and book costs may still apply. Qualifying students may be eligible to have those fees and book costs waived.
- Running Start students are 21 percent more likely to attend college. Specifically, 76 percent of Running Start students attended college compared to only 55 percent of non-Running Start students.
- Running Start students have access to all of the student support services offered by the community college they choose to attend. Services can include tutoring & learning centers, cultural learning communities; equity support centers and services; basic needs resources and food pantries; academic and career counselors; disability services; mental health support; veterans benefits; and more.
- Credits transfer to 2 and 4-year community and technical colleges across Washington State so students can stay close-to-home or attend college wherever they want.
- Course options vary depending on what is being offered by your regional community or technical college.
- Students have the option of applying their credits towards an associate degree or career-ready technical degrees and certificates.
- Online, hybrid, and in-person classes are available.
- Students can enter the Running Start program in fall, winter, or spring.
- Students can earn up to two years of tuition-free college credit, saving thousands of dollars on their college education.

**COLLEGE
LOGO**



- Running Start students are eligible to take part in all college activities with the exception of intercollegiate athletics. These activities can include clubs, special interest groups, student government, student newspaper, and the college radio station.
- Running Start students can still participate in their high school's extracurricular activities such as sports, dances, special events, and clubs. Athletes must still meet the Washington Interscholastic Athletic Association (WIAA) rules of eligibility.
- Students who qualify for the Free and Reduced Lunch program may be eligible to have their class fees and book costs waived.
- Students can take a maximum of 15 tuition-free credits per quarter.
- One college class (5 credits) is roughly equivalent to one year of a high school class.
- Academically prepared students have an opportunity to take college level courses and get to know what going to college is like.
- It is not uncommon for students who have strong college readiness skills, yet have difficulty fitting-in the traditional high school setting, to flourish in a different educational setting such as college.
- Students who have transferred between high schools and have incurred credit difficulties may find that Running Start can help them meet graduation requirements on time.
- Financially, this is the best scholarship a student can earn when you consider the cost and value of each college class completed.



**READY.
SET. SUCCEED!**

CONTACT us now to learn more about the many college and career benefits of becoming a Running Start student!

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**COLLEGE
LOGO**

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