Get an Early Start on Your College Career with

Running Start

A program for eligible high school juniors and seniors offered through an educational partnership between Walla Walla Community College and your high school.

What is the Running Start Program?

The Running Start Program at Walla Walla Community College offers eligible high school juniors and seniors an opportunity to attend college courses and earn college credits, tuition-free, while completing high school graduation requirements.

The program is designed for students who:

• Want to take advanced, special-interest or professional-technical courses that are not available at their local high schools;

• Are planning to go on to college and want to get an early start on working toward a college degree;

• Want to be challenged and are ready for college-level studies;

• Want to take courses that will provide both high school and college credits.

Who is Eligible for Running Start?

Students must be juniors or seniors as determined by the high school, enrolled in a Washington public high school, and below the age of 21 in order to participate in Running Start. They must also meet established college entrance requirements, including taking the Walla Walla Community College placement test. Refer to the Running Start guide for minimum placement scores for Running Start eligibility.

Students who are enrolled in private high schools or in home schooling programs must first contact their local Washington State public high school to be eligible to participate in the Running Start Program.

What Courses Are Open to Running Start
Students?

Running Start students enroll in the same college-level and professional-technical courses as other Walla Walla Community College students, providing they meet the prerequisites for each course. In some cases, only the placement test will be required for admittance to a specific course; in others, successful completion of introductory courses or the instructor's permission is required.

Regular college-level and professional-technical courses are offered on a quarterly basis and meet for approximately 11 weeks during the fall, winter, and spring quarters.

How Many Courses May a Student Take?

The number of courses each student takes at the college and at the local high school is a decision that must be made by the student in consultation with a Running Start advisor and a high school counselor to ensure that all high school graduation requirements are met. Some students may choose to enroll in only one course on the WWCC campus, while taking the balance of their courses at their high school. Others may elect to take all of their courses through Walla Walla Community College. No matter which approach is chosen, it is up to each student to determine which program is most appropriate for his or her academic goals.

Running Start students may enroll in a maximum of 18 credits per quarter. Any additional credits must be paid for by the student.

Important Considerations

Running Start students should consider the following before enrolling in the Running Start program:

- Cost of books, supplies, and fees
- Transportation to and from the high school
- College course pace is much faster than high school
- Commitments beyond the classroom
  - Music, drama, sports, work, etc.
- Schedule conflicts between the high school and college
  - Late Start
  - Winter and Spring Breaks
  - Early Dismissal
  - Semesters vs. Quarters
- Grades earned at WWCC become part of the students' permanent college and high school transcript
- WWCC courses needed to complete high school graduation requirements may not be offered every quarter or at a time you can attend

How Much Does Running Start Cost?

FEES AND ALLOWABLE CREDITS CHANGE EACH SEPTEMBER
Students are responsible for the following costs:
Application Fee ........ No charge
Facility Use Fee ....... $1 per credit, maximum of $10 per quarter
Matriculation Fee ..... $1 per credit, maximum of $10 per quarter
Technology Fee ........ $3 per credit, maximum of $30 per quarter
Books, Supplies ...... $50-$250 per quarter (est.)
Tools, Equipment ..... Dependent upon program
Distance Learning .... See quarterly schedule
Registration Fee....... $31.40 to be paid after quarterly tuition due date
Running Start students pay for credits beyond 18 per quarter. For rates, refer to the quarterly class schedule. Special rates are available for Professional-Technical block programs.

Enrollment Checklist

☐ Contact your high school counseling office or the WWCC Counseling Department to obtain Running Start information.

☐ Carefully RESEARCH this important choice; speak to your parents, current Running Start students, your teachers, and counselors for their advice.

☐ Complete the WWCC application.

☐ Schedule your WWCC Placement Test by calling 527-4262 (Walla Walla) or 758-1718 (Clarkston). Testing sessions last approximately two hours.

☐ Take your placement test scores to your high school. (Refer to the Running Start Guide for minimum scores for Running Start eligibility.)

☐ Obtain Quarterly Referral Form from your high school, then schedule a college advising & orientation appointment with the WWCC Counseling Department at 527-4262 (Walla Walla) or 758-1718 (Clarkston).

☐ Meet with a college Running Start advisor to arrange your classes.

☐ Register and pay all fees to the Business Office by the date listed in the quarterly schedule.

☐ Purchase textbooks at the WWCC Bookstore.

For More Information

Students and parents who want more information on the Running Start Program should contact their local public high school’s counseling department and/or Walla Walla Community College for a Running Start Guide.

WWCC COUNSELING DEPARTMENTS

Walla Walla Campus..........................527-4262
Clarkston Campus ............................758-1718

Website Address: www.wwcc.edu
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