

# Four-Day Schedule FAQ for Students

## What is the 4-day schedule?

Classes that meet four days per week will meet on Mondays, Tuesdays, Thursdays, and Fridays. Most Arts & Sciences, some workforce (non-block programs), as well as some Transitional Studies classes will follow this schedule. Class sessions will be 60 minutes each, with a 10-minute break between classes. Evening and summer classes will not be affected by this change.

Some classes will continue to meet five days per week as dictated by student needs. For example, developmental math classes, some lab science classes, workforce FYE classes, possibly some workforce related instruction (AENG, ACOM, AMATH) classes, and potentially some Transitional Studies classes will meet for 50 minutes. Those will start at the same times listed above but will end 10 minutes early, resulting in a 20-minute break prior to the start of the next class.

## Why are we changing to a 4-day schedule?

Research suggests that a four-day instructional schedule enhances student success by providing additional time to study privately or with a group, thus reinforcing classroom instruction. A mid-week break allows time for information processing, and for attending to required tasks, such as writing papers or conducting research, without the relentless obligation to be in class every day of the week.

Some students have expressed a preference for not being *required* to come to campus 5 days per week—which allows personal flexibility regarding work, family, etc., while saving gas money and time.

Students can meet with faculty, advisors, financial aid, counseling, tutors, navigators, and others on campus on the day without classes scheduled. With intentionality, this could be a significant advantage to student success.

Differentiating WWCC's schedule from the high school five day per week schedule reinforces the transition to college.

The college can now schedule meetings and professional development for faculty on Wednesday afternoons without impacting classes.

## I am in a block workforce program. What does this mean for me?

There are exceptions to the 4-day schedule for programs that involve specific numbers of hours for licensing, clinical placements, or other industry requirements. For example, Nursing, Cosmetology, Barbering, Diesel, Welding, and Automotive will remain on the

five-day schedule to meet requirements. Speak to your advisor with questions about particular courses/programs.

**What other exceptions are there to the 4-day schedule?**

Some pre-college Math and some science classes will be on the five-day schedule in order to meet the learning needs or lab requirements of the course content. Speak to your advisor with questions about particular courses/programs.

**What if I have a mix of classes on both schedules? How can I make it work?**

The daily schedule is built to allow for students to take classes on both schedules. Start times have been adjusted from previous years to make this work.

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
7:30-8:30	4- & 5-day classes	4- & 5-day classes	ONLY 5 day classes	4- & 5-day classes	4- & 5-day classes
8:40-9:40	4- & 5-day classes	4- & 5-day classes	ONLY 5 day classes	4- & 5-day classes	4- & 5-day classes
9:50-10:50	4- & 5-day classes	4- & 5-day classes	ONLY 5 day classes	4- & 5-day classes	4- & 5-day classes
11:00-12:00	4- & 5-day classes	4- & 5-day classes	ONLY 5 day classes	4- & 5-day classes	4- & 5-day classes
12:10-1:10	4-day classes	4-day classes		4-day classes	4-day classes
1:20-2:20	4-day classes	4-day classes		4-day classes	4-day classes
2:30-3:30	4-day classes	4-day classes		4-day classes	4-day classes

**What if my science lab class overlaps the next hour two days a week? Can I still schedule the next hour and just skip it for the labs?**

We are not allowing this as an option. Full attendance at all classes is the pathway to student success. Instead, use the open times to study, get tutoring help, do homework, etc.

**How are other college services affected (like the TLC, Bookstore, Library, etc.)?**

Services like the library, bookstore, TLC, computer labs will follow the same hours they have had previously. These vary depending on the service and hours are posted on their website and onsite locations. WWCC child care hours will remain the same as they currently are, as well.

**How are finals affected?**

Finals have traditionally been scheduled separate from the daily schedule and is revised yearly to align with the calendar. This practice will continue. Look for a revised 2019-2020 finals schedule under the calendar link on the WWCC website.

**How does the new schedule align with area high schools for Running Start students?**

The proposed times conform to the Valley Transit bus schedule, as well as to the expected changes to the Walla Walla Public School schedule. The Clarkston campus is also adopting a similar schedule modeled on the one described here but will align with local community needs.

**How are student activities, sports, and faculty office hours affected by the 4-day schedule?**

All campus activities and services will remain on the standard five-day-per-week schedule throughout the academic year. During each summer, campus services are provided Mondays through Thursdays. During the summer only, campus is closed and no services are offered each Friday. These “sustainability days” reduce the college’s carbon footprint and energy costs by limiting the number of days the campus is open.

**Will I get the same level of instruction in a four day week?**

Absolutely. Each class session has been extended, so you will meet for the same amount of time as you would have under the previous five-day-per-week model.

**Will my instructors and advisors be more accessible with this new model?**

Yes, they should be at least as accessible, and probably more accessible than they are currently. They will be available to schedule appointments with you on Wednesdays, and may hold regular office hours on Wednesdays, as well. This will not affect their availability on the other four days of the week, but it provides another time during which they are not teaching and you are not in class.

**Are my classes still going to be fully transferable to a 4-year school on the semester system?**

This will not affect transferability in any way. You are earning the same number of credits for the same course, so transfer will not be affected by this change.

**Will other community colleges in Washington State still accept my transfer classes?**

Yes, other colleges will still accept your transfer credits. Transfer is based on the number of credits earned, and this change will not affect the credits earned for any given course.