



Left to right: Running Start student Rosalyn Hart, Running Start Program Manager Linda Calvert and Vancouver Mayor Royce Pollard celebrate Hart's selection as the winner of the 2005 General George C. Marshall Youth Leadership Award.

# running start

Clark College *The Next Step*  
www.clark.edu

## What is Running Start?



Running Start provides academically motivated students an opportunity to take college courses as part of their high school education.

Students may take just one class per quarter, or take all of their courses on the Clark College campus.

If you are eligible for the program, you will earn both high school and college credit for the classes that you take.

Classes taken on the college campus as part of the Running Start program are limited to "college level" courses (classes numbered 100 or above).

Tuition is paid by the school district. Books, class related fees and transportation are the responsibility of the student.

Running Start was created by the Washington State Legislature in 1990, and is available at all community and technical colleges in the State of Washington.

## How does Running Start work?

Running Start students attend regular day or evening college classes. You are accepted as a regular college student by Clark College instructors, and are expected to complete the same coursework requirements as your college classmates.

Upon successful completion of a college class, a student is awarded both college and high school credit. Your academic records will be kept by Clark College and a grade report will be sent to your high school at the end of each quarter.

## How much does Running Start cost?

As a Running Start student, you pay no college tuition.

You will, however, need to pay for your own textbooks, supplies, lab and other applicable fees, and provide for your own transportation. Book assistance may be available through Running Start for students from low-income families.

## What courses are available?

As a Running Start student, you are eligible to take up to 15 credits tuition-free at Clark College. Additional credits may be approved on an individual basis. A full range of academic, professional/technical and vocational courses at the college level are available.

Courses for each quarter are listed on the Clark College website. High school counselors will tell you which courses at Clark College are equivalent to high school graduation requirements.

## How do I qualify?

Students must have college-level writing and reading scores on the placement test at Clark College to qualify for Running Start funding for all subjects except Math. College-level math scores are needed to take Math at Clark College.



## How do home-schooled and private-school students access Running Start?

You must access Running Start through a public high school in Washington, be a junior or senior, and meet the college test score requirements to be eligible.

## Where do I apply?

You can contact your high school counselor for initial advising and to arrange for eligibility testing at Clark College.

For more information, call 360-992-2842 or see the Running Start website at [www.clark.edu/runningstart](http://www.clark.edu/runningstart).

## Running Start Steps

The high school student places at college-level on the placement test and attends a Running Start orientation at Clark College.

The high school junior or senior meets with public high school counselor, completes forecast form before deadline, and takes eligible courses at Clark College.

Clark College tuition is paid by the school district. The cost of books, class-related fees, and transportation are paid by the student.

Upon successful completion of the course, the student earns both high school and college credit.



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## What are the Next Steps to enroll in Running Start?

- Plan early as the enrollment process begins the quarter before you want to start classes. For Fall Quarter entry, the process begins earlier in February.
- Sign up for the Running Start test before the deadline. See [www.clark.edu/runningstart](http://www.clark.edu/runningstart) for specific dates.
- Take the Running Start eligibility test at Clark College.
- Attend a Running Start orientation if you qualify on the test with college-level scores. You will learn about the college culture and resources, program procedures and requirements, as well as faculty expectations.
- Meet with your high school counselor to select Clark courses that meet your high school graduation requirements and complete a Running Start “forecast form”.
- Meet with your college advisor about the courses you plan to take. Return the forecast form to the Running Start Office before the specified deadline.
- Register at Clark College at your designated appointment time.
- Purchase books and/or supplies.
- Attend classes and enjoy your Running Start experience!

Students may access Running Start through any of the following public high schools in Clark College’s service district:

- Battle Ground
- CAM
- Camas
- Columbia
- Columbia River
- Evergreen
- Fort Vancouver
- Glenwood
- Heritage
- Hockinson
- Home Link
- Hudson’s Bay
- Klickitat
- La Center
- Legacy
- Lewis and Clark
- Lyle
- Mountain View
- Prairie
- Ridgefield
- River Homelink
- Skyview
- Stevenson
- Summit View
- Trout Lake
- Vancouver School of Arts & Academics
- Vancouver Home Connection
- Washougal
- Washington State School for Blind
- Washington School for Deaf
- Wishram

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Running Start regulations are subject to change by the Washington State Legislature and Clark College.

Alternate format of this document is available upon request. Please contact Disability Support Services at (360) 992-2314 or (360) 992-2835 TTY.

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**Earn College Credit Tuition-Free  
As a High School Junior or Senior**

**Clark College**  
*The Next Step*