

JHS Running Start Signature Page

The Running Start program allows students to take college courses at community and technical colleges which can be applied toward high school graduation and potential college degrees.

How do I qualify for Running Start?

In order to participate in the Running Start program, you must:

- Be of junior or senior standing, credit wise. You must have successfully completed your sophomore year with 12 credits or more.
- Be prepared to take college-level courses and do college-level work. College-level courses can be highly demanding, requiring up to two hours of homework for every hour of instruction.
- Pass a college placement examination (varies by college) OR submit documentation of Smarter Balance (SBA) score of 3 or above in Language Arts & Math in order to take any college classes and be accepted for admission to the Running Start program.
- Furnish your own transportation to and from the community college.
- Purchase your own books for any classes you take, and pay any fees and/or fines required by the college, as well as a one-time application fee, if applicable.
- Remember that while you are taking the college-level courses, you will be treated like a college student.
- It is YOUR responsibility to keep updated on all JHS information such as holidays, schedule changes, photos, senior deadlines, etc.
- It is YOUR responsibility to contact your counselor in advance if you need their signature---drop-ins will not guarantee immediate counselor signature.
- Attendance may or may not be taken in your college classes.
- Parents will not be notified if you skip a class.
- Progress reports are not given.
- Your parents will not have access to your progress at any time.
- **The high school is not responsible for your actions while you are attending college classes.**

Please remember:

Running start courses will be at the beginning of your college transcript, which may have a positive or negative impact on future college admission or scholarship decisions.

How does the Running Start program work?

1. **Tuition payment:** College tuition will be paid by the State of Washington. Some colleges may have a small tuition fee per credit to be paid by the student. You must take the college courses for credit (no auditing). You must notify the college and Jackson High School immediately of any intention to drop a class. Failure to notify the college and Jackson when you drop a class may result in your paying the tuition for that class.
2. **Dropping classes:** Not all community college courses will qualify for Running Start tuition payment. As a Running Start student, you will be assigned an advisor at the community college who will help you select qualifying courses.
3. **Residence in high school service area:** You must live within the Jackson High School boundaries, or be attending JHS on a variance, to receive college and high school credit through the Running Start program and Jackson High School.
4. **JHS and Community College Course times:** Students are expected to set a JHS and college course schedule that allows them time to fully attend their JHS courses and get to their college courses on time. JHS teachers will not excuse arriving late or leaving early for Running Start courses.

5. **Withdrawing from high school:** If you withdraw from Jackson High School you will no longer be eligible for the Running Start program through Jackson, and tuition for your college classes will not be paid by Everett Public Schools.
6. **Home schooled students:** If you are home schooled you must enroll in an Everett Public Schools high school before you can attend any Running Start classes through the school district (i.e., tuition free). Home schooled students are not required to attend classes at the enrolled high school.
7. **College credits:** A community college 5-credit course (100 or above level course) will equal 1.0 Jackson High School credit. No more than 15 credits may be taken through the Running Start program per college quarter, with a maximum of 45 credits per school year. Any coursework beyond the 15 credits per quarter will be at your expense.
8. **High school graduation requirements:** Your Jackson High School counselor will determine which community college classes will meet Jackson High School graduation requirements (see the Running Start equivalency chart for your community college for more information).
 - You must fulfill all of the graduation requirements of Henry M. Jackson High School in order to graduate with a Jackson High School diploma. If you are a Running Start student, this means that you will need to take enough equivalent credits at community college to match the minimum credits required by JHS for graduation. In all cases, you should check with your JHS counselor to ensure that you are making continual progress toward graduation.
 - You may not continue with the Running Start program after you have completed your high school graduation requirements. If you have not completed all your graduation requirements, you may continue in Running Start as long as you are taking college courses that meet specific high school graduation requirements, but not in excess of six quarters.
9. **High school transcript:** When you complete a college class (whether passed or failed), the subject area and grade will appear on your high school transcript (no exceptions).
 - If you take any college classes that you pay for yourself, in order to have the credits posted to your high school transcript you must send a copy of your official transcript to Jackson High School. The college classes will then count and will be placed on your official Jackson High School transcript.
10. **Summer school:** You may not take Running Start coursework during the summer. Any summer classes you take will be at your expense. However, credits earned in summer school will apply toward high school graduation if the credits meet the equivalency requirements.
11. **Credit transferability:** Be aware that not every college will accept Running Start community college credits (especially some private and out-of-state colleges). You should check with the colleges/universities you may want to attend. Sometimes it is better to take advanced high school courses instead of community college classes.

Student must submit this form to his/her counselor

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“I have read the Running Start Program information I received and have discussed the program with my parent/guardian and my counselor at Henry M. Jackson High School. I understand what is required of me and will complete all required steps with my counselor to take appropriate classes at the community college I have chosen to attend.”

Signed form must be turned into your counselor before you can register for college courses.

Student Name *(please print)*

Student ID #

E-Mail Address

Cell Phone

The community college you are planning to attend: _____

Grade Level *(circle answer)* : Junior Senior

Student Signature

Date

Parent/Guardian Name

Date

Parent/Guardian Signature

Date