



What is Running Start?

Running Start is a college credit program that is an outgrowth of the CHOICE legislation of 1990. With Running Start, students earn credit simultaneously for high school graduation and toward a college degree.

Spokane Community College, Spokane Falls Community College, the Institute for Extended Learning and the high schools in the Community Colleges of Spokane service area (Ferry, Lincoln, Pend Oreille, Spokane, Stevens and Whitman counties) offer this program to expand the educational opportunities of junior and senior high school students. Students should contact their public high school counselor for procedures to enroll in a course(s) under the Running Start program. The high school determines if the course meets the high school graduation requirements.

What is the purpose of the Running Start program?

The Running Start program enables an eligible high school student to seek expanded educational challenge. The student enrolls simultaneously in high school and college classes (or solely in college classes) for the purpose of earning credit to be awarded both by the high school and the college. Classes taken at the college as part of the Running Start program are limited to “college-level classes”.

What will it be like to take a course at Community Colleges of Spokane?

Once students enroll under this program and begin attending the community college, they will be considered regular college students. The faculty will expect the same level of classroom participation, study habits and homework.

Homework—College classes demand approximately two hours of homework for each hour of class. Generally, there will be no classroom time for homework.

Attendance—Though faculty may or may not take attendance, it is the student’s responsibility to be prepared each day for class and meet all deadlines.

Class participation—Class participation is an integral part of college and most faculty will require students to participate in classroom discussions.

Class pace—The speed at which college classes are taught is much faster than classes in high school.

Cost—The community college will bill the high school district for tuition costs. However, students registering for below-100 classes or more than 18 credits in any one quarter will be responsible for paying for those additional credits. Also, students will need to purchase the necessary book(s) and supplies as well as pay noncourse-related fees. Check with the college’s bookstore for the exact cost of books and supplies. Visit www.ccs.spokane.edu for current tuition and fees.

Transportation—Students are responsible for their own transportation to and from classes.

Parking—All students who plan to park on campus and are attending educational programs on campus that meet 10 or more times per quarter are required to purchase a valid quarterly permit. The cost is \$12.

Parents’ access to student records—Community Colleges of Spokane follows federal guidelines concerning access to student records. Further information is available at the Admissions Office.

Grade reports—Grades are available to students approximately seven working days after the end of the quarter and will be sent to the high school after the conclusion of the quarter.

Numeric Grade	Letter Grade Equivalent	Numeric Grade	Letter Grade Equivalent
3.8-4.0	A (superior achievement)	2.0-2.2	C (average achievement)
3.5-3.7	A—	1.6-1.9	C—
3.2-3.4	B+	1.3-1.5	D+
2.9-3.1	B (above average achievement)	1.0-1.2	D (minimum achievement)
2.6-2.8	B—	0.7-0.9	D—
2.3-2.5	C+	Below 0.7	F (failure)

Student responsibility—Students are encouraged to see the college Running Start coordinator and/or a college counselor prior to registering. Assistance can be provided concerning courses needed to fulfill A.A. degree requirements, courses needed for the various A.A.S. degree requirements, and courses needed for transfer to a four-year institution. Students will be expected to meet class deadlines, be prepared for class and ask questions. If a student is having difficulty with a class, he/she will need to talk to the instructor or counselor. Running Start students will follow the academic standards policy. (Refer to the CCS catalog for further information.)

Academic records—Students successfully completing classes under the Running Start program will be using the classes for both high school and college credit. The grade received will become part of the student’s college transcript. If a student wishes to apply to another college, the student must list SCC or SFCC as a college attended and request that the college send an official transcript of his/her grades.

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Academic standards—The college has an academic standards policy requiring that students maintain a 2.0 (C) grade average. If a student fails to do so, the student will be put on academic probation. Students whose grade-point average falls below 2.0 any given quarter will be warned of their academic status and encouraged to seek assistance. If they are academically deficient for two consecutive quarters, they will be placed on academic probation and referred to an adviser for further recommendations. Students face dismissal if they are academically deficient for three consecutive quarters.

Withdrawal—It is the student's responsibility to initiate the process for drop/withdrawal of classes by contacting the college admissions office prior to the drop/withdrawal date published in the quarterly class schedule. Classes dropped prior to the 10th day of the quarter will not show on the transcript. Classes dropped between the 10th day and the last day of the quarter will show a "W" on the transcript. If a student does not withdraw from a class, a failing grade may be posted on the transcript. (Date posted in quarterly class schedule.)

How do you apply for Running Start?

First contact your public high school counselor for a **CCS Application for Admission** form and a **Running Start Student Application Procedures** sheet. Applications may be submitted at any time. However, the best times are listed below. They allow for your eligibility to be determined and registration to occur as early as possible.

Fall Quarter 2008 March 1 to May 15, 2008

Winter Quarter 2009 October 1 to November 22, 2008

Spring Quarter 2009 January 3 to February 15, 2009

Admission to the college does not guarantee acceptance into certain classes or programs.

Entrance requirements—All students who apply to the Running Start program must be tested for eligibility by taking the ASSET or COMPASS test. Testing fees will be paid by the student. Admission to the Running Start program is based on the student meeting the college-level cut-off scores that are currently in effect for college-level courses. Students are allowed to retest in unqualified area(s) one time for each quarter. There is a \$20.00 fee for retests. A retest taken during spring or summer quarter is considered applicable for fall quarter. Any exception to the admission criteria will be reviewed on an individual basis by the vice president of student services or his/her representative for special admission consideration. Once accepted into the Running Start program, the student may access any course or professional/technical program for which he/she otherwise meets the prerequisites. However, eligible Running Start students are limited to taking the credit classes listed in the Community Colleges of Spokane quarterly class schedule with updated changes. This includes those courses offered online.

What is the community college academic calendar?

The community college operates on a quarter system which is different from the high school academic calendar. During the 2007-2008 year the quarterly start and end dates are as follows:

Term	Start Date	Drop/Withdrawal Date	End Date
Fall 2008	September 22, 2008	November 10, 2008	December 12, 2008
Winter 2009	January 5, 2009	February 23, 2009	March 25, 2009
Spring 2009	March 30, 2009	May 20, 2009	June 18, 2009

Holidays the community college celebrates and its vacation periods may be different from high school schedules. You may be expected to attend classes at the college even though your high school is not in session.

Web sites:

SCC www.scc.spokane.edu

SFCC www.spokanefalls.edu

IEL www.iel.spokane.edu

CCS www.ccs.spokane.edu