



RUNNING START

FALL 2018 ELIGIBILITY INFORMATION

Apply online at www.clark.edu/runningstart

Click on “Application and Eligibility Instructions”

Running Start (RS) is a program established by the Washington State Legislature in 1990, which allows high school juniors and seniors residing in Washington to challenge themselves academically by taking college-level classes at a community college. Students receive both high school and college credits for successfully completing classes numbered 100 or higher. Students must qualify for RS by demonstrating college-level readiness by a number of means listed below. Students may attend either part-time or full-time. The number of credits funded by RS is determined by the number of classes taken at the high school and/or Skills Center. Students are responsible for textbooks, some tuition and class fees, and transportation to the college. Tuition and fees are subject to change by the Washington State Legislature.

Home-schooled or private-schooled juniors and seniors must access RS through a public high school in Washington. Home-schooled students must also have an “intent to homeschool” form on file at the local public school district office.

STEP 1 Apply Online, Pay Fee, and Qualify

Starting February 1, current sophomores and juniors can apply online for entry into Fall Quarter 2018. See www.clark.edu/runningstart, click on the “Students” tab, then “Application and Eligibility Instructions.” Please print and follow the instructions. Apply online and pay the \$25 non-refundable application fee. Bring photo ID to the Enrollment Services office in Gaiser Hall to get your Clark Student ID number.

Bring proof of eligibility to the RS Office located in the Advising Center (preferably before mid-April).

Students can qualify by any one of the following:

- Public high school transcript with a minimum cumulative GPA of 2.75 including the first semester of current year (does not qualify for Math; additional score needed)
- Smarter Balance scores of 3 on English or Math
- ALEKS Math test score at college-level as determined by Clark Assessment Center
- AP score of 3 on English or Math
- English “Readiness Assessment” if none of the above or home-schooled (Math test required to qualify for college-level Math)

STEP 2 Forecast

In May, eligible students will complete an “Enrollment Verification Form” that indicates what classes they want to take at Clark for fall quarter. The actual classes may be different when the student registers online at a date to be determined. The form must be signed by the high school counselor and parent each quarter and returned to the Clark RS Office prior to the stated deadline.

The number of credits of tuition covered by RS is dependent on the number of classes taken at the high school and/or Skills Center. This form must be completed each quarter and generates payment of tuition by the high school.

STEP 3 Orientation and Registration

Details about an orientation and online registration will be provided to students when they bring proof of eligibility to the RS office in Gaiser Hall. Students will be able to register online for classes at a date to be determined.

STEP 4 Pay Any Fees and/or Tuition

RS students are responsible for paying a \$6.75 per-credit fee, some class fees associated with courses, and tuition for any courses below 100-level. Tuition and fees are subject to change by the Washington State Legislature. Students are also responsible for textbooks and transportation expenses.

There is a fee waiver for those who:

- qualify for either free or reduced-price lunch, or
- qualify for state or federal assistance funds such as EBT or State Medical benefits, or
- are foster youth

This will allow some fees and tuition to be waived, but not the application fee. Students should bring proof of one of the above to the RS office, preferably when they bring in proof of eligibility for RS. Students only need to provide documentation to the RS office once to qualify for the waiver.