

Thinking about Running Start?

Here are some things to know:



The Running Start Program is authorized by the Washington State Legislature and the Auburn School District. The program allows qualified students to attend classes at community/technical colleges to earn college and high school credit simultaneously. Students must pass specific criteria to be eligible to participate in this program. Tuition is funded under the Running Start Program. Students are responsible for purchasing any required books, lab and miscellaneous fees, and for providing their own transportation.

- A student **must be in 11th or 12th grade** to participate in Running Start.
- A student **must be at least 16 years old** during the first quarter of enrollment in Running Start.
- A student must **meet certain requirements to participate in Running Start** – credits, GPA, and qualify via college placement test or acceptable substitution.
- A student can be **Full-Time** (only taking classes at college) or **Part-Time** (taking classes at both the college and at AMHS) to total full-time schedule status.
- A student **must have completed Advanced Algebra/Trig with an A or B** to qualify for college math.
- A student **must take a class each quarter that meets high school graduation requirements.**
- Tuition will be paid by the school district for **100 level courses or above** for a credit load that does not exceed **15 community college credits**. Books, supplies, fees, and transportation are the responsibility of the student and their family. Tuition for summer courses are not paid for by the district.
- Running Start courses may **conflict with high school extracurricular activities**. This is also true of vacations and breaks.
- Seniors must take a minimum of 3 classes or 10.5 credits either at AMHS or Running Start the spring quarter/semester of their senior year in order to walk at Auburn Mountainview graduation in June.
- **ACADEMIC PROBATION/ALERT** if a student fails one class or withdraws from a class they may be put on academic probation or alert. If the student fails a class or withdraws from a class while on academic probation they may be dropped from Running Start and will need to return to AMHS for classes.
- **Waiver/Transfer students** must take a minimum of 2 credits at AMHS to enroll in Running Start each year.
- **Students will meet with their AMHS Counselor before each quarter** – Fall, Winter, Spring.
- **Counselor, parent, and student will all meet together for 1st meeting** to go over expectations, classes and answer questions. Plan 30 minutes for this appointment.
- **Running Start EVF appointments** begin 2-3 weeks before EVF's are due to the college – approximately,
 - late April or May (May registration for Fall Session)
 - late October (November registration for Winter Session)
 - late January (February registration for Spring Session)
- **Students who are home schooled** must be enrolled in their boundary high school to enroll.
 - Home schooled students must complete the following forms:
 - **Home Schooling Letter of Intent** (must be completed each school year)
 - **Request for Ancillary Services**
 - **Running Start Enrollment Request Home-Based Instruction Students Only**
 - **AMHS Counselor Contract**
 - Home schooled students do not need an appointment with their Counselor, they only need a signed EVF form.

How to apply to Running Start

For students interested in Running Start, they must first apply to the college they plan to attend (Green River College, Highline College, or Pierce College). Once you complete your application, you should receive a confirmation email from the college within a few days to a week.

Once you have your acceptance email, you will then need to take a placement test to determine whether or not you are academically eligible for college classes at this time. Due to Covid, those eligibility tests are accessible on-line.

You should receive your placement tests results immediately. Share them with your counselor via email when you receive them, and then you will be able to schedule a meeting with them. Counselors are specifically looking to see that a student earns college level placement scores on the exam in order to qualify.

As always, students should have a 3.0 GPA or higher to be considered a strong candidate for Running Start. Please know, that this is not a “soft start” to college, it is the real deal! Students will begin building a College Transcript through Running Start and will be treated like any other College Freshman with all the same requirements and standards. Beginning this process does not require you to see it through. Students are not obligated to take Running Start classes in the fall, even if they are registered.

Please be aware that if a student gets less than 2.0 GPA in Running Start, for 3 quarters, they will be exited from Running Start and need to return to AMHS for classes.

Where to start:

Step 1: Talk with your parents about the program.

Step 2: Double check your credits- 12 at the end of sophomore year, 18 at the end of junior year.

Step 3: Apply to Green River: <https://www.greenriver.edu/students/academics/getting-started/>

Step 4: Request a Proctored Assessment to determine eligibility:

<https://www.greenriver.edu/students/academics/assessment-testing-center/>

Step 5: Complete Online Orientation: <https://grcc.greenriver.edu/onlineorientation/>

Step 6: Schedule an appointment with your AMHS Counselor and a parent to determine college classes and sign an EVF

AMHS Counselors:

Deb Landis	A-E	dlandis@auburn.wednet.edu
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If you have questions, please contact the Auburn Mountainview Counseling Office at 253-804-4548.