



Running Start at GRC



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 fully funded under the Running Start Program. Students are responsible for purchasing any required books, lab and miscellaneous fees, and for providing their own transportation.

Who is eligible?

A student must be a Junior or Senior as defined by the High School's policy. Typically a Junior will have earned at least 10.5 credits by the end of their sophomore year and a senior will have earned 15.5 credits by the end of the junior year.

A student must be eligible for Engl& 101 by using one of the available placement options (see 3. below).

What do I do if I am interested?

1. Talk with your parents about the program. (See the attached Contact for things to discuss)
2. Apply to the community/technical college you plan to attend.
3. Meet the appropriate criteria for placement.

See what this is <https://www.greenriver.edu/students/academics/placement-testing-center/course-placement-options/>

Begin this process in early April at the college you plan to attend for Running Start.

4. Have parents sign the contract sheet found on the ARHS website and bring it with you when you meet with your counselor. **Make an appointment to meet with your counselor.**
Bring your test score report or other qualifying scores to the appointment.
You and your counselor will discuss if you qualify.
5. Receive the Running Start Verification form.
Fill in all the demographic information you can and your counselor will complete the rest. (This form must be completed for each quarter of participation.)
6. Register for college classes by turning your form in to the college and register for college classes.
7. **Bring a copy of your college class schedule to your ARHS counselor.**
Your counselor will then be able to adjust your high school schedule to coincide with your college schedule.

What if my parents or I have other questions? Please call your counselor in the Auburn Riverside High School Counseling Office (253) 804-5161 or go online to GRC website:

<https://www.greenriver.edu/students/academics/running-start/>

Taking classes at GRC

Once you begin classes at GRC you will be treated like a regular college student. That means that you will be held to the same standards as any other student at the college, but you will also receive the same privileges and benefits as any other student at the college.

Advising: You will be required to meet quarterly with a GRC advisor during your first year.

Adding/Dropping Classes: There are varying academic dates and deadlines. Please contact your advisor for questions about adding and dropping classes.

Attendance: Your instructor may not take attendance every day, but you are still required to be in class. Instead of taking attendance your instructor may only test you on the information discussed in class, or even award points for class discussions.

Class Discussion: Most instructors require their students to participate in class discussions, so come to class prepared! The students in your class may range in age from 16-80 years old, but remember, your opinion is just as important as anyone else's!

Pace: College classes can move faster than those in high school. A yearlong course in high school is usually taught in one quarter at GRC! So, if you start to feel overwhelmed or begin to fall behind, seek out your instructor or a Running Start advisor to get the help you need before it's too late.

Homework: For every hour you are in class, it will generally be two hours of studying outside of class; and remember college classes don't allow time for you to complete your homework in class.

Grade Reports: GRC will report your quarterly grades to your high school so they can be averaged with your high school GPA. They will not be mailed directly to your house. You can also find your grades online on the GRC website.

Deadlines: Green River College does not enforce an application deadline. Applications for participation in Running Start will be accepted through the beginning of each quarter. However! Your application date will determine your registration appointment!

Fees: Even though your high school covers your tuition for college level courses, you are still required to pay class fees. If you forget, a hold will be placed on your account and you will not be able to register for the following quarter until those fees are paid.

Academic Standards Policy: This information is embedded in the Running Start Enrollment Packet that will be signed by you and your parent/guardian and submitted to GRC after eligibility has been determined.

For Parents

We believe parents play an intricate role in a student's success, and we do everything we can to include parents in their child's education at GRC. How Running Start differs from the high school is that once your child begins their classes at GRC their privacy is protected under the FERPA privacy act that protects all our students. This means that the college faculty and staff will not be able to discuss registration, class attendance, status of assignments, grades, or any aspect of a student's attendance at GRC with you without an official release of information. If you are going to want access to that information it is imperative that you talk with your child and have an official release of information signed right away so we can continue to work with you on your child's progress.

5 steps to becoming a Running Start student:

- 1. Apply for admission (Do NOT select Running Start).**
- 2. Complete the Running Start New Student Online Orientation.**
- 3. Determine ENGL& 101 eligibility.**
- 4. Upload your completed Running Start Enrollment Packet.**
- 5. Attend a Running Start Advising and Planning (RAP) Session.**