

White River High School Running Start Check List

1. Thoroughly read this packet of information. On pages 5 & 6, **both parent and student** need to initial and sign the form.
2. Call the college to arrange a time to take their placement test and ask about the assessment fee. The assessment generally takes 2-3 hours to complete. Students will receive their scores immediately from the testing staff.
3. Students are encouraged to work on practice questions. Here is a link to ACT with sample questions related to math, reading and writing <http://www.act.org/compass/sample/index.html>.
4. Bring your test results along with pages 5 & 6 completed and signed to the Guidance Center. These two pages will then be given to your high school counselor, who will call you in for a meeting.
5. If your test scores qualify you for Running Start, you will discuss your course choices with your high school counselor, who will provide you with a Running Start enrollment verification form.
6. Make an appointment with your college advisor to register for classes. Take your enrollment form, high school transcript, and your test results with you.
7. After you have registered for classes at the college, **bring a copy of your schedule** to your high school counselor.

Special Note: There is a fee for taking the placement test at most of the colleges. The fee will be credited towards fees or additional tuition if you enroll within one (1) year of testing. Photo ID and Social Security number is needed when taking placement test.

Green River College 253-833-9111

Green River College/Enumclaw 360-829-2450

Pierce College 253-840-8343

Tacoma Community College 253-566-6061

TCC Automated Test Info. Line 253-566-5158

Bates Technical College 253-680-7030

Clover Park Technical College. 253-589-5548

WRHS RUNNING START PARENT'S HANDBOOK

Running Start is a program created by the legislature. It provides an opportunity for juniors and seniors in high school to enroll in college courses at a community college or enroll in a vocational program at a voc-tech college. The purpose of the program is to provide academically qualified students a choice to take college courses as part of their high school program.

Students may enroll simultaneously in high school and college classes or solely in college classes; and will they will receive high school credit toward graduation for all college classes taken. Classes taken at the college as part of the Running Start program are limited to "college level courses" (numbered 100 or above). No remedial courses are covered by this program.

Students may elect to take community college or vocational college courses during the junior and senior high school years. Students must be at Junior or Senior status at the time of enrollment. The college classes offered are tuition-free. Books, supplies, lab fees, and transportation are the responsibility of the student. Completed classes receive both high school and college credit. One five-credit class at the college earns one high school credit. Graduation requirements are established by each high school and students must consult the course transfer guide from their high school counselor.

The combined enrollment of an eligible student in a high school and the college shall total one full-time FTE. Students are not eligible for Running Start during the summer quarter, though they may attend at their own expense.

Due to FERPA laws, the high school staff cannot track grades, or attendance at the college so no information about the student's progress is available until the end of each quarter term. All running start students are required to take the college placement test.

SOME CONSIDERATIONS

Parents and students should give careful consideration to the appropriateness of this program before enrolling. High school and college advisors are available to meet with parents and students to discuss the options.

Strengths:

1. Students have the opportunity to take courses that may not be offered at their local high school.
2. Students have an opportunity to experience post-secondary education while in high school. This experience can be helpful in making the transition from home to college away from home, and in making future educational plans.
3. Academically qualified students have an opportunity to take advanced level courses.
4. Students who find the traditional high school is not fitting their needs may flourish in a different education setting.
5. Students can earn up to two years of tuition-free college credit getting a head start on college.
6. Students may have the opportunity to take more elective classes than provided at the high school.

Possible Limitations:

1. Parents should take into consideration the maturity level of their child when discussing the possibility of participating in Running Start. Some students who are academically ready may find the independence and the speed of college classes overwhelming, and would benefit from remaining in high school. High school and college advisors are available to provide you with information to aid in evaluation of your student's readiness.
2. Socialization may be an issue with some students. High schools provide a social network and social experiences for teenagers. This is not as available at college as at the high school.
3. Transportation is the responsibility of students.
4. Percentage of tuition, books and other fees are the responsibility of students.
5. The scheduling of college classes may conflict with high school classes or extracurricular activities.
6. The college operates on the quarter system. The high school operates on a semester system. Holidays and vacation periods may be different. Students are expected to attend classes at the college even though their high school is not in session. Careful planning must occur as this may create conflicts with family and school activities.
7. **The high school is the final authority on what is required for graduation.** Care must be taken to work closely with your high school counselor to insure graduation requirements will be met.
8. Even a well-planned Running Start curriculum may not work due to the limited space available. In order to ensure that all WRHS requirements will be fulfilled, a student needs to have a back-up plan.
9. Students planning on transferring community college credits to a 4-year university need to realize that it is their responsibility to check the requirements for that 4-year university to make sure their Running Start credits will transfer. The community college advisor will be helpful in this process.

GENERAL INFORMATION

1. Running Start is available only to students with Junior and Senior credit. A student may take a combined 1.20 FTE for high school and college classes in a college quarter.
2. New Running Start candidates must take the assessment/placement test (COMPASS) between February and 1st week in May. For ease of placement, students are encouraged to take the COMPASS test no later than spring break.
3. Students who plan to graduate with a White River School District Diploma must complete the Enrollment Verification Form and agreement form signed by the student and parent.
4. White River School District testing requirements are mandatory. 11th grade Running Start students must take SBAC and may require a student to miss one or more college classes.
5. Students who do not pass the EOC or SBAC will be required to enroll in a state approved alternative class at the White River High School.
6. Diplomas will be issued for graduating seniors only after receiving transcripts from RS institutes confirming that all required courses have been passed.
7. The student has the responsibility to keep the high school counselor apprised of progress while enrolled in college courses. If at any time a student receives a failing grade, incomplete grade or transfers from a class, it is the student's responsibility to notify the high school counselor, as this may jeopardize the student's eligibility for graduation.
8. All courses taken at the college through Running Start will be included on the high school transcript.
9. The student is responsible for seeking out general information commonly given to students such as graduation, college admissions, testing, scholarships, etc., during times when the student may be taking college courses and not physically on the high school campus.
10. Close attention to class starting times at the high school should be observed when scheduling college classes. Be certain to allow yourself plenty of time to travel between campuses. Participation in Running Start classes does not excuse tardiness or absences at the high school.
11. Student attendance and the reporting of progress to parents are the responsibility of the student. As prescribed by state law, the college is not able to inform parents of academic progress or attendance in college courses. The high school will have final grades available at the end of each quarter. These grades will then be posted to the student's transcript.
12. Financial Aid may be affected, for further information contact the college you are planning to attend.
13. The WIAA requires that student athletes be enrolled in a minimum of 2.5 high school credits worth of classes. This is equivalent to 13 college credits taken through Running Start.

COLLEGE LIFE

What will it be like to take a course at college?

Running Start students will be considered a "regular" college student. The faculty will expect the same level of classroom participation and quality of work as the adult and college students.

Student Responsibility	Students will be expected to meet class deadlines, be prepared for class, ask questions, and conduct themselves as responsible adults. If students are having difficulty or want additional information, it is their responsibility to seek out the instructor. Instructors have posted office hours when students can come to see them for help or discussion. Appointments can be made outside of office hours.
Class Pace	The speed at which college classes are taught is much faster than at high school. For instance, a high school math class which is usually taught in two semesters (36 weeks) at White River High School, is taught in ten (10) weeks at the college. There is very little time for faculty to stop and review lessons for students who did not understand the material or were absent from class. However, faculty members encourage students to come to their offices for help.
Homework	College classes demand an average of at least two hours of homework for each hour of class. A five-credit class will have approximately ten hours of homework each week. There will be no classroom time for homework.
Attendance	The faculty may or may not take attendance. It is the student's responsibility to be prepared each day for class and meet all deadlines. Some faculty give pop quizzes and expect all papers to be turned in on time with no make-up possibilities.
Class Participation	This is an integral part of college and most faculty require students to participate in classroom discussions. The students in the classroom can range in age from 16 to 80 and students need to be prepared for a variety of opinions.
Grade Reports	Grades will be mailed to students and to the high school following final exams.
Academic Record	Students successfully completing classes under the Running Start program will receive both high school and college credit. The grade reported is part of the permanent college transcript. If a student wishes to apply to another college, they must list the college they attended and request an official transcript be sent from there.
Class Size	Classes can vary in size from 15 to 80 students with the average class size about 30 students. This class size makes it possible for instructors to give individual attention to students who request assistance.

White River High School
Running Start Transfer Guide

WRHS Requirement	Pierce College Equivalent	GRCC Equivalent	TCC Equivalent
Contemporary Government	HIST 128, 168, 260, 265, 270, 272, 277, 280, 284 HUM 105, 106, 107, 240 INTS 107, 140, 164 PHIL 230, 238 POLS 101, 202, 203, 230 SOC 101, 201 ENVS 150 ECON 110, &202	HUMAN 186, 190, 224, HIST 103, 233, 250 PHIL 102, 210, 220, 243 POLS 101, 202 203, 204 SOC 101, 201, 215 ECON 100, 194, 202 ENVS 204 AMES 100	HIST 128, 250, 220, 249 HUM 110 POLS 101,203 PHIL 190, 290 SOC 110, 201 262, 271 ENVS 101 ECON 202
English 11	English 101 and above	English &101and above	English 101and above
English 12	English 101 and above	English 101 and above	English 101 and above
Electives	100 or above; any class	100 or above; any class	100 or above; any class
Math	Math 107 above	Math 102 above	Math 106 and above
Career & Tech Ed	Any CTE Class 100 and above		
Phys Education	Any Phys Ed class 100 & above	Any Phys Ed class 100 & above	Any Phys Ed class 100 & above
Science	Any Science Class 100 level and above		
Social Science US History WA State His World History	HIST 156, 157, 158, 159, 168 HIST 214 GEO 150, 160 HIST 126, 127, 128, 270, 272, 280 INTS 107, 140 POL 203	HIST 136, 137, 222 HIST 214 HIST 101, 102, 103, 232 GEO 120, 200, 205	HIST 146, 147, 148 HIST 214 HIST 126,127, 128 GEO 205
Health	HSCI 119, 140, 151, 152, 200, 210 Nutrition 101 BIOL 170, 175	HLED 150	PE 190, 191
Fine Arts	Any Fine Arts Class 100 level and above		

White River High School Running Start Agreement

Student Name _____

Address _____
City _____ Zip _____

Home phone number _____ Student Cell Phone _____
Parent Cell _____

College planning on attending _____

Student and parent must initial each item:

- _____ _____ 1. To be eligible for high school graduation the student must follow the prescribed courses as mandated by the White River School Board. Consult the "Transfer Guide" carefully when selecting courses. After you have registered for courses at the college, bring a copy of your schedule to your high school counselor.
- _____ _____ 2. Student attendance, transportation, reporting of progress to parents, books and fees are the responsibility of the **parent**. White River High School is not able to inform parents of academic progress or attendance in college courses.
- _____ _____ 3. The student has the responsibility to keep the high school counselor apprised of progress while enrolled in college courses. If at any time a student receives a failing grade, incomplete grade, or transfers or withdraws from a class, it is the student's responsibility to notify their high school counselor immediately, as this may jeopardize the student's eligibility for graduation.
- _____ _____ 4. At the completion of college courses the college will provide a college transcript to the high school guidance center. All courses completed as a part of Running Start shall be included on the high school transcript.
- _____ _____ 5. The student is responsible for keeping informed of general information commonly given to students, such as culminating project, graduation, college admissions, testing, scholarships, etc., during times when the student may be taking college courses and not physically on the high school campus. The daily announcements can be accessed on the high school page of the district website (www.whiteriver.wednet.edu).
- _____ _____ 6. A minimum level of success is expected of Running Start students. Each college will have rules regarding academic probation. It is your responsibility to understand those rules.

- _____ _____ 7. No course required for high school graduation can be taken the spring quarter of the senior year. Should this be unavoidable, the diploma will not be awarded until Spring quarter transcripts are received in the guidance center.
- _____ _____ 8. Once a high school course has begun, students will not be allowed to withdraw to take college courses. By beginning the course, the district FTE has been allocated. The high school cannot guarantee that class schedule changes can be made midterm to accommodate the college schedule.
- _____ _____ 9. The college operates on the quarter system, the high school is on the semester system. Holidays and vacation periods may be different. Students are expected to attend classes at the college even though their high school is not in session, and vice versa.
- _____ _____ 10. Colleges cannot by law release grades to parents without written permission of the student. However, students may sign a release form giving the parent(s) access to grade information.
- _____ _____ 11. To receive a WRHS diploma, Running Start students must meet all graduation requirements, including the development of their 5-year plan.
- _____ _____ 12. Students **must** maintain full-time student status at all times.

Student Signature

Student E-mail Address

Parent Signature

Parent E-mail Address