

# CLATSOP COMMUNITY COLLEGE

# RUNNING START

## FOR HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS

### WHAT IS RUNNING START?

Approved by the Washington State Legislature in 1990, Running Start allows eligible Washington high school juniors and seniors to attend college part-time or fulltime and receive both high school and college credit. Students do not pay tuition, but are responsible for textbooks and some fees. The college courses must meet the high school's graduation requirements, and must be courses numbered 100 or above. Washington high school students are eligible to attend Clatsop Community College as Running Start students.

### IS RUNNING START A GOOD PROGRAM FOR YOU?

Running Start is a great opportunity for students to get a head start on their four-year college plans and save on college costs because there is no tuition charge for Running Start students. Most of the Running Start students have excelled at Clatsop; however, Running Start is not for everyone. College life and classes offer much more flexibility and independence than high school. RS students are held to the same standards as any other college student. This may present problems for those students who are not quite ready for the college experience.

### WHAT ARE THE ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS?

To be eligible to apply for the Running Start program, you must be a junior or senior, have at least a 2.5 grade point average for your high school classes, be making satisfactory progress toward high school graduation, and attain appropriate scores on the college COMPASS placement exam. If you are not sure if you meet the above criteria, please talk with your high school counselor.

### HOW DO I GET STARTED?

The process starts at your high school. Students should contact their high school counselor and discuss how Running Start might work for them. After agreement that Running Start is the way to go, there are a number of forms that need to be submitted to the high school and then to the College Office of Admissions. After eligibility for the program has been established, there will be a forecasting session before each college quarter. College and high school staff will work with students to put together the best schedule for you.

### WE ARE HERE TO HELP YOU!

At Clatsop Community College, we want each of our students to have a positive and enriching educational experience. We will do everything we can to ensure that Running Start students succeed. We offer counseling and advising. We communicate regularly with high school counselors and Clatsop instructors as we monitor the progress of each Running Start student.

## ***POINTS TO PONDER . . .***

You and your parents should carefully consider your level of maturity and commitment to determine if **RUNNING START** is appropriate for you. Before you make your decision, please consider these issues.

Class participation is an integral part of college. Most instructors require students to participate in discussions. The students in your classes will range in age from 16 – 86 so you should expect a variety of opinions and adult topics.

You must meet deadlines. Even though you may be academically ready, the independence and speed of college classes can be overwhelming. Grades earned at Clatsop Community College become part of your permanent college transcript.

College classes may demand an average of at least two hours of homework outside of class for each hour in class.

The College faculty may or may not take attendance. It is your responsibility to be prepared for class and to meet all deadlines.

Some of the art classes at Clatsop use undraped models as a part of the learning experience.

Social life is different and may not work for you. High schools provide a greater social network and experiences for teenagers.

College classes may conflict with high school classes or some extracurricular activities, such as sports.

The College operates on a quarter system. Most high schools operate on a semester system. Holiday and vacation periods may be different. You will be expected to attend classes at the college even though your high school is not in session. It is important to plan carefully to avoid conflicts between college classes, family, and activities.

The high school is the final authority on what is required for high school graduation. You must work closely with your high school counselor to ensure that you meet your graduation requirements. You will be responsible for keeping informed about high school deadlines and activities.

You and your parents will be requested to sign a Release of Information form so that your grades and progress can be shared with your high school and with your parents.

**Please call the Recruitment Coordinator at 503-338-2417 for more information.**

# **CLATSOP COMMUNITY COLLEGE**

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**[www.clatsopcc.edu](http://www.clatsopcc.edu)**

It is the policy of Clatsop Community College that there will be no discrimination or harassment on the grounds of race, color, sex, marital status, religion, national origin, age, sexual orientation, or disability in any educational programs, activities, or employment. Questions or complaints should be directed to the Affirmative Action/Gender Equity (Title IX) Officer in Patriot Hall 225 (503 338-2450; TDD 503 338-2468). The Section 504 Coordinator is located in the Student Services Center (503 338-2474).