

Running Start Program Update: What Students and Parents Need to Know

What are the recent changes to the Running Start program?

- Starting this fall, the State Legislature will limit the combined high school and college credits the State will fund for each student.
- As a result, colleges will now collect tuition on any credits a Running Start student chooses to take beyond a combined 1.2 FTE course load of high school and college courses.
- Students who stay at or below 1.2 FTE of a combined high school/college schedule may still attend Running Start tuition-free.
- Students who choose to enroll above the 1.2 FTE will pay per-credit college tuition for every credit in excess of the combined limit.
- Whether the credits are paid by the student or tuition-free, Running Start students will continue to receive dual (high school and college) credit.
- To plan their schedule, students will use a new, statewide **Running Start Enrollment Verification Form** available at their high school or college.
- A 1.2 FTE Chart is available to help students and parents know which combinations add up to a tuition-free schedule. It is located on the new, statewide **Running Start Enrollment Verification Form**.
- **Also new:** Running Start students will be charged tuition for college credits exceeding 15 in any one quarter (charged at the 1-10 credit tuition rates for 16 credits and above). This does not apply to those enrolled in vocational programs or at Skills Centers.

What if I already registered or pre-registered for fall quarter?

- Since the 1.2 FTE limit went into effect July 1 along with the state budget, **all students beginning Running Start fall quarter must have their schedules reevaluated.**
- Use the **NEW** statewide **Running Start Enrollment Verification Form** available at your college or high school to provide verification you meet the Running Start eligibility requirements and to determine whether your combined schedule is above or below the state-funded limit.
- If the previously-planned fall quarter schedule exceeds 1.2 FTE, you may choose to reduce your schedule or use the new Verification Form for parental approval to exceed the state-funded limit and pay the college tuition in excess of 1.2 FTE.
- To get the schedule and classes you want, pay close attention to registration deadlines. Make your plans now so there are no surprises this fall.