

## **RUNNING START CONTRACT**

Submit this signed contract to your counselor for an application and eligibility form  
for the college of your choice.

STUDENT \_\_\_\_\_ GRADE 11 12  
EMAIL ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_ PHONE \_\_\_\_\_

College Choice for Running Start (circle)

Edmonds      Everett      Skagit South      Skagit North      Other \_\_\_\_\_

- I plan to be a full-time Running Start student  
 I plan to be a part-time Running Start student (not recommended for off-island school)

To qualify for Junior Status and the Running Start Program it is recommended to have: (attach transcript)

- A total of 15 credits, which includes these freshman/sophomore classes:  
 2 PE credits       East. & West. Civ.       English 9 & 10  
 Health       3 math credits\*       Phys. Sci & Bio.  
 GPA of 2.25 (Skagit) or 2.5 (Everett)  
 Passed the Writing Assessment

We (student and parent) understand that:

The student is responsible for completing culminating project planning and presentation. If the student is not familiar with what is required, please check with the assigned advisor teacher. **Gathering information about senior issues, opportunities and deadlines is possible on the SWHS website ([www.sw.wednet.edu](http://www.sw.wednet.edu)) AND IS THE RESPONSIBILITY OF STUDENTS ATTENDING RUNNING START CLASSES.**

\_\_\_\_\_      \_\_\_\_\_      Parent and Student Initials

The Running Start program is an important decision, with a number of factors and issues to consider. This program allows mature, academically advanced high school students to start college 1 to 2 years early. Does this accurately describe you? Students and parents/guardians should consider the following about the Running Start program.

Being enrolled in Running Start may make a student ineligible for certain honors or awards from South Whidbey High School. Specifically, the Academic Letter honor DOES NOT include Running Start grades. A student must take three or more academic classes (that earn a LETTER GRADE) at the high school each semester to be considered for an Academic Letter.

\_\_\_\_\_      \_\_\_\_\_      Parent and Student Initials

### College Environment:

Maturity, sense of educational purpose and self-discipline are crucial to success at the college level. College instructors may provide little or no individual assistance in or out of class. College classes are usually more difficult than equivalent high school courses and require more study and homework time, while covering material at a faster pace. Student records, grades, attendance, and progress in classes are confidential and will not be released to parents/guardians unless the student gives the college permission to do so. Parents will not receive any progress reports or report cards, nor is there any opportunity for parent-teacher conferences. Parents/guardians will not be notified if their child does not attend classes or stops attending college. Students will be taking classes with older students who are committed to being successful, and high school students must be able to "hold their own" in such a setting. College students may have different behavior and social expectations than SWHS parents/guardians or students. If attending college full time, students will miss much of the "high school experience," especially during the senior year. Although participants remain enrolled as a high school student and can participate in all high school activities and sports, it may be very difficult, if not impossible in some cases, to do so.

College Curriculum:

SWHS students are limited to a maximum credits per year to be applied toward graduation credit. Full-time Running Start students are limited to 15 credits per quarter for a full-time RS student. College credits are counted in a different way from high school. A typical English or History class is worth 5 credits at the college, but 1 credit at SWHS. Each college credit is worth 0.2 credit at the high school. The Running Start Program covers all 100-level classes (these are considered college level classes). Any class under the 100 level is NOT covered by the Run. St. program and will not be applied to the high school transcript and will not count toward graduation. If there is a special case you would like to discuss, please see your counselor. Keep in mind: SWHS STUDENTS ARE ONLY ALLOWED TO EARN 10 HIGH SCHOOL CREDITS IN ONE SCHOOL YEAR. Plan your schedules accordingly.

Students must pay other costs associated with classes – only tuition is covered by the Running Start program. Class fees, books, materials, etc. are not covered and are the responsibility of the student. Be aware that these costs can be several hundred dollars a year. Students must also provide their own transportation. Students are also charged for tuition for any classes beyond the 15 credits covered by Running Start.

Students will be required to present an Eligibility Form to the counselor each and every quarter for required approval and signatures. IT IS THE RESPONSIBILITY OF THE STUDENT TO PICK UP ELIGIBILITY FORMS AT THE COLLEGE AND BRING TO THE SWHS COUNSELOR FOR SIGNATURES PRIOR TO EACH NEW QUARTER'S REGISTRATION TIME.

**Scheduling classes at community college and at SWHS may present a dilemma. It should be remembered that students MUST schedule AROUND SWHS classes; SWHS classes have priority. If times for classes overlap, even for a few minutes, students will not be excused from SWHS to accommodate a Running Start class. Students must schedule college classes with this in mind.**

**STUDENTS MUST CALL FOR AN APPOINTMENT WITH THE SWHS COUNSELOR - DO NOT DROP IN AND EXPECT IMMEDIATE ACCESS FOR SIGNATURE!!**

Student Responsibilities

The student is responsible for completing all requirements and course work before receiving a diploma from SWHS. If enrolled in college courses to meet high school graduation requirements during spring quarter of the senior year, students will not receive their diploma until such courses are completed and transcripts sent to the high school. However, they may participate in the graduation ceremony if progressing satisfactorily in these courses. Spring Running Start students will be required to submit a progress report prior to the first graduation rehearsal date. Any graduation rehearsals missed due to college final exams must be approved by the principal prior to the rehearsal. Students must fully participate in any mandatory state or SWHS testing when it is scheduled, even if it means that they must miss attending college classes.

Students must follow college procedures and deadlines for withdrawing (dropping) from any classes. Should a student change course selections or stop attending, the high school needs to be informed.

As the parent/guardian, I understand the Running Start Program and approve of my student's participation.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Parent/Guardian Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

As the student, I understand the Running Start Program and my responsibilities and agree to them.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Student Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date