

Incoming Freshmen Registration & Course Selection FAQ

This handout is designed to answer common questions from students and families as they prepare for course registration at Mount Si High School.

Registration Timeline & Process

When does registration open/close?

Refer to the *Incoming Freshmen Registration* page for specific dates.

What do I do with my Course Selection Form?

Complete the form and use it as a planning tool. Once the registration window opens, you will enter your course requests in Skyward. You will have one week to enter your course requests.

Do I need to submit or save my Skyward course selection?

No. Your selections save automatically. Once finished, you may simply close the window.

Credits, Scheduling, and Alternatives

How many credits do I need to register for?

All students register for:

- 7.0 credits
- 2.0 credits of alternate courses

Why do students select alternate courses?

Alternate courses help ensure students receive a complete schedule if a requested class is full or unavailable.

What if I'm taking a zero-period class?

The Course Selection Form is for planning only. Write the zero-period class beneath the electives section. When entering courses in Skyward, be sure your requests total **8 credits** plus alternates.

English / Language Arts

What is the difference between LA 9 and LA 9 Honors?

- **LA 9** focuses on supporting students in meeting SBAC standards.
- **LA 9 Honors** focuses on exceeding SBAC standards and emphasizes skills such as timed writing, student-led discussion, and other pre-AP practices.
- Students are automatically placed into Language Arts based on their SBAC scores from the previous year. Families may choose to opt in or opt out of either class.
- Honors classes do not necessarily require more work, but they may involve different, more advanced types of learning.

Math

Can I skip Geometry and move directly to Algebra 2?

No. Students must follow the required math sequence. Geometry is required, and there is no option to test out.

What if I want to change my math selection?

Math is hard-coded into student schedules. To request a change, email your assigned counselor.

What if I failed one semester of Algebra 1?

Students may repeat Algebra 1 during their freshman year to strengthen their content knowledge and improve their GPA. Students may also register for summer school to make up a failed semester of math.

World Language

Are two years of a world language required to graduate?

Yes. While not mandatory your freshmen year, Mount Si requires 2 credits of world language. Students however may instead complete a *Personalized Pathway Form* to shift these credits into general electives.

Which world languages are offered at Mount Si?

Course offerings vary year to year. Currently offered languages include French, German, and Spanish.

Can I take a world language outside of Mount Si?

Yes. Options include Running Start, MSHS online programs, or OSPI-approved online providers.

If I took Spanish I in middle school, what should I register for?

Students typically register for Spanish II. However, students may choose to retake Spanish I if they feel a fresh start would be beneficial..

What if I already speak another language fluently?

Refer to district information on the *Seal of Biliteracy* and contact your assigned counselor with questions.

Social Studies

How do I meet the WA State History requirement?

This requirement is met through 7th grade Social Studies. If passed, it will automatically appear as “MET” on the high school transcript.

How does AP Human Geography count?

AP Human Geography is a year-long course:

- AP Human Geography counts as a Social Studies elective (1.0 credit)
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PE, Electives, and Special Courses

Is PE required in 9th grade?

Yes. All 9th grade students are enrolled in two semesters of *Fit for Life (PE)*.

Does Jazz Band count as an elective?

Jazz Band counts as a Fine Arts credit. Students enrolled will have a total of 8 classes.

Does Music Creativity require prior music experience?

No. Students do not need prior instrument experience. Refer to the Course Catalog for details.

Course Catalog & Course Codes

Where can I find detailed course information?

The *Course Catalog* includes descriptions, grade eligibility, prerequisites, and graduation requirements.

What if a class has two course codes?

Enter both codes to ensure registration for *both* semesters.

What if a course code isn't listed on the 9th-grade form?

If it is not listed, the course is not available to freshmen this year.

High School Credit & Transcripts

Do middle school classes count for high school credit?

Yes. High school-level courses taken in 7th or 8th grade will appear on the high school transcript if the course is passed.

To remove or modify these credits, families must complete the [Request for Middle School Grade Modification Form](#) before their senior year.

Academic Success & Support

How can students be successful in high school?

The transition to high school can be challenging. Students are encouraged to focus on attendance while developing strong soft skills, including organization, time management, self-advocacy, and communication.

Students should ask questions and connect with teachers early. School counselors are always available for additional support.

Athletics & Community Involvement

When do I sign up for fall sports?

Visit the Athletics website for registration timelines and physicals.

Are community service hours required for graduation?

No. Community service is not required, but it is strongly encouraged. It helps students build resumes, support their community, and strengthen college applications.

MHS also offers a *Community Service Award* at the end of senior year based on completing a minimum of 40 hours. Only hours completed after starting high school in August may be logged [here](#).