Navigating High School Options

CG Issaquah High School Counselors



Understanding Your Options

Program Requirements

Most programs require students to be 16 years old by September of the entry year. Transportation is typically the student's responsibility. Each program has unique application processes, deadlines, and required forms, so be mindful of these.

Program Types

Each program has its own focus, whether it is a change in academic setting, a general collegiate focus, or a specific focus on a specialty interest, such as construction or medical fields. Structures vary, including online, hybrid, and traditional in-person formats.

Key Considerations

Remember, there's no one-size-fits-all solution. Consider your interests, learning style, and long-term goals when exploring these options. It is essential for you to really understand a program before you can make an informed decision aligned to your own needs and goals.

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ISD Online Part-Time Program: Flexible Learning

Grades 9-12

1

All students in grades 9-12 can access a variety of courses through ISD Online, offering flexible learning options to supplement traditional schooling.

Part of Schedule

2

Online courses can integrate into a 7-period day or be taken as an 8th period, providing flexibility to accommodate different learning needs and schedules.

Self-Paced

3

The self-paced format allows students to progress at their own speed, although in-person testing is required to ensure academic integrity and comprehension.

ISD Online offers asynchronous courses with in-person testing, though courses may not always align with the pace of IHS core subjects. 1st or 7th period is tuition-free, while 8th period costs $425. Students need self-discipline and must handle their own transportation if taking courses during the school day. https://www.isd411.org/programs-services/middle-high-school-programs/online-learning **Application opening date for Summer and Fall will be posted on the online website.**

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NEW: ISD Online School

1

Full-time Online Program

Beginning next year, ISD will offer a fully online high school – students would leave their home school to pursue an ISD Online School diploma.

2

A different approach

Fully online asynchronous, live teacher support available via Zoom, students can participate in sports and clubs at home high school.

3

Applications Open in March

More details coming soon! Consult the website and contact the ISD Online Learning team with any questions.

Want to learn more? Visit: https://isdonline.isd411.org

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WANIC: Career and Technical Education

Tuition-Free

WANIC offers tuition-free programs for junior and senior, providing valuable career and technical education without financial burden.

College Credit

These CTE programs provide both HS and college credit opportunities, enrich your academic credentials, and provide a deeper preparation for certain college/career goals.

Industry Certifications

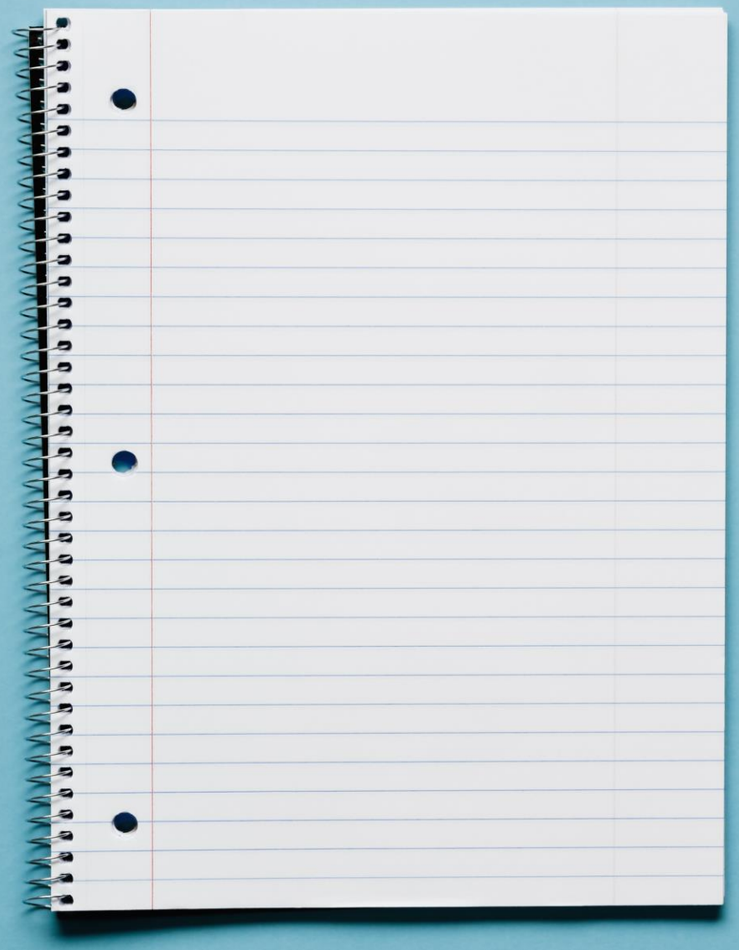
WANIC programs lead to industry certifications, increasing employability and providing a competitive edge in the job market.

WANIC students combines partial-day IHS schedule with partial-day specialized training elsewhere.
Programs examples: Aerospace Manufacturing, Automotive Technology, Baking and Pastry, Fire and EMS, and Video Game Design.

Interested in learning more about WANIC? Visit: https://wanic.lwsd.org/. Priority application window: February 4 – March 31.

Contact College and Career Specialists (Library) for application support:
https://issaquahhigh.isd411.org/student-life/college-and-career-center

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Running Start: take classes at college

Dual Enrollment

Running Start allows eligible high school students to enroll in college course, earning both high school and college credit simultaneously.

Tuition Free

Tuition is free for Running Start students, providing a cost-effective way to begin your college education and reduce future tuition expenses.

Apply Beginning in March:

Bellevue College: https://www.bellevuecollege.edu/runningstart/

CWU: https://www.cwu.edu/academics/specialized-programs/running-start/

Renton Tech: https://rtc.edu/academics/high-school-programs/running-start/

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What is Running Start?

1 Tuition-Free College Courses

11th and/or 12th-grade students can pursue high school education at a community or technical college **tuition-free**, earning up to 21 college credits a quarter.

2 Dual Credit

Earn high school and college credit simultaneously, providing a running start on a college degree.

3 College Transcript

Running Start classes and grades are transcribed on both a student's high school and college transcripts, building a college record.

4 Associate's Degree

Students can work towards an Associate's degree while still in high school, accelerating their academic journey.

The Running Start program offers high school students the opportunity to attend community or technical colleges, tuition-free, earning both high school and college credit. Many Running Start students attend Bellevue College, Renton Technical College, or Central Washington University (online).

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Who is Eligible for Running Start?

Age and Grade Level

11th and 12th-grade students are eligible. Students can start summer quarter after 10th grade.

Academic Standing

Students typically need to demonstrate college readiness through placement tests or academic records.

Credit Status

We recommend students have earned 10+ high school credits prior to RST enrollment to ensure college success.

Eligibility for Running Start depends on a few factors, including grade level, academic readiness, and enrollment in high school. Start at the College's website to learn about their program requirements and application process.

You complete your application process with the college FIRST (March/April). After doing so, you will LATER meet with your counselor (April/May) to prepare for enrollment (May).

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How could a Running Start Schedule Look?

Full-Time Running Start

Students take **all** their classes at the college, eligible for up to 21 college credits, needing at least 12 credits to be full-time.

Part-Time Running Start

Students can take anywhere from 1 to 7 classes at Issaquah HS and still participate in the RST program.

IHS Course Selection

You still need to request a full 7-credit IHS schedule during Course Request in March. Counselors will adjust your requests in May.

Running Start offers flexible scheduling options to fit your academic needs. Full-time students take all their classes at the college which is typically 3 classes a quarter, while part-time students balance high school and college courses. Keep in mind, students are responsible for scheduling their RST classes around the high school block schedule.

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Advantages of Running Start



1. Free tuition
2. Advanced Courses.
3. Change of environment.
4. Faster pace.
5. Flexibility in scheduling.
6. Earn more high school credits per year.
7. Option to earn transferable college credits, or even a 2-year associate degree while in high school.

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Consider Before Enrolling

1 Maturity & Independence

You will need to be ready for college level curriculum, and independent management of your education. Less direct support is available.

2 Socialization

College is an adult environment with great age diversity; classes include all college students, not just high school. Being away from the high school campus will change your experience.

3 Scheduling Challenges

You are not guaranteed to get your first pick of classes at college, Balancing IHS's block schedule with a Running Start schedule can be challenging for part-time students.

4 Costs & Transportation

While tuition is free, you will be responsible for campus and class fees. Students are responsible for their own transportation. Parking is not guaranteed.

You must be an independent, proactive self-starter to be successful in the college setting. Planning ahead and being proactive can mitigate these challenges.



Math Placement Considerations

Running Start only covers college-level Math (above Algebra 2). Plan accordingly.

1. **Take Alg. 2 at the high school**

   Free option.

2. **Take Alg. 2 through our online program**

   Free option.

3. **Pay out of pocket – not recommended**

   Outside credit to take Alg. 2 at the College. Approximately $1K

Math placement is a crucial step in the Running Start process. Ensure you meet the college's requirements by completing placement tests and providing necessary transcripts. Explore available math options to best suit your academic needs.





Next Steps for Running Start

1. With your family, attend our IHS Running Start zoom webinar Tuesday, February 24th from 6:30-7:15pm.
   - https://issaquah-wednet-edu.zoom.us/j/84531407925
2. Sign up to attend Running Start Flex Sessions with counselors on March 4th and 11th.
3. Attend an information session at the college. Most offer zoom and in-person options.
4. Do all of this FIRST, to be cleared to schedule with a counselor.

Apply FIRST, and plan with Counselor AFTER.



Summary

1. Online Learning, WANIC, and Running Start are all program options you can explore.

2. In March, you will request 7 credits at IHS, with alternates.

3. You can apply for WANIC now, Running Start and Online after mid-winter break.

4. You are responsible for applying to a program that interests you. Help is available (Flex, College & Career Center, ISD Online).

5. Individual Counselor appointments come later.