

CCS Administrative Procedure

3.10.01-D Postsecondary Enrollment Options

Implementing Board Policy [3.10.01](#)

Contact: Office of the Provost, 434-5060

1.0 Purpose

Concurrent enrollment programs allow students to earn high school and/or college credit. Students can earn dual credit by completing college courses (e.g. Running Start, College in the High School, and Tech Prep) or by completing standardized placement exams (e.g. Advanced Placement, International Baccalaureate, and Cambridge International Program). Students who earn college credit are more likely to graduate high school, enroll in college, and complete college degrees.

Programs such as Running Start, College in the High School, Early College in the High School, and Gateway to College allow high school aged students who may be ages 16-21 to seek expanded educational opportunities. Students must be a minimum of 16 years of age or must meet the program eligibility criteria for the specific program. Please refer to Administrative Procedure 3.10.01-A Admissions (Sections 3.3 and 3.4) for eligibility requirements.

2.0 Running Start

Running Start is intended to provide students a program option consisting of attendance at certain institutions of higher education while simultaneously earning high school or college/university credit. Running Start was initiated by the Legislature as a component of the 1990 *Learning by Choice* law.

- 2.1 Students in grades 11 and 12 are allowed to take college courses at accredited Washington State institutions which offer Running Start.
- 2.2 Running Start students and their families may not pay tuition, but they do pay college fees (unless they qualify for Free or Reduced Lunch) and buy their own books as well as provide their own transportation. Students receive both high school and college credit for these classes and, therefore, accelerate their progress through the education system. The exercise of that right is subject only to minimal eligibility and procedural requirements, which are spelled out in state administrative rules. See RCW 28A.600.310 for more information.

3.0 College in the High School

College in the High School (CHS) programs provide college-level academic courses to tenth, eleventh, and twelfth grade students. Courses are taught at the high school, by high school teachers, with college curriculum, college textbooks, and oversight by college faculty and staff. Students are responsible for the costs of CHS, with school districts sometimes assisting. Some state subsidies are available for rural and small schools and for low-income students. Local school districts apply for this funding.

4.0 Advanced Placement, Cambridge International, and International Baccalaureate Programs

Advanced Placement (AP) and International Baccalaureate (IB) programs enable students to take college-level courses, taught by high school teachers, at the high school. Upon completion of the course, students take a standardized exam. Scores from the exams are considered by colleges, and varying levels of credit are awarded. Students do not pay tuition, but do pay fees for the final standardized exams and the transcription of the credits earned from these exams.

5.0 Tech Prep

The Tech Prep program helps students transition from high school into postsecondary career technical programs. Tech Prep is a cooperative effort among K-12 schools, community and technical colleges, and the business community to develop applied, integrated academic and technical programs. Courses are taught by high school teachers at the high school. Students do not pay tuition. Washington Tech Prep awards dual credit to high school students for career and technical education (CTE) courses articulated to college programs.

6.0 Gateway to College

Gateway to College assists students ages 16 to 21 who may have dropped out of school or are in danger of dropping out. Eligible students may qualify for this program to concurrently accumulate high school and college credits, earning their high school diploma while progressing toward a certificate or associate degree.

7.0 College Contacts

- 7.1 Spokane Community College
 - Office of Admissions and Registration, Building 15
- 7.2 Spokane Falls Community College
 - Office of Admissions and Registration, Building 17

8.0 Related Information

[WAC 131-12-010](#) - Minimum standards for admission to a community or technical college.