



Accelerated Degree



• What is Fast Track Your Future?

Fast Track Your Future is an accelerated cohort-based AA-DTA degree offered at Spokane Community College. Typical AA Degree programs take anywhere from 21-24 months for students to complete on a traditional academic calendar. The Fast Track program takes 12 months from start to finish.

• What is an AA-DTA degree?

An AA-DTA degree is an Associate in Arts – Direct Transfer Agreement offered by nearly all of the public community and technical colleges in the State of Washington. The Direct Transfer Agreement is an articulation agreement between Washington’s Community and Technical Colleges and the four-year public universities within the state. It ensure that students who successfully complete an AA-DTA and meet all other admissions requirements at their selected public four-year college will be able to transfer with junior status. Other private colleges within the state also honor this agreement, including Gonzaga and Whitworth, as well as public universities in neighboring states.

• What does “accelerated” mean?

Typically it takes students a minimum of six academic quarters of full-time attendance (usually 3 courses) to complete an AA-DTA, with a break for summer. This program is structured to be completed in four quarters with no breaks. Courses within each quarter are offered at an accelerated pace so that students can complete more courses within the quarter (*3-5 courses per quarter*).

• Who is eligible for this program?

This program is designed for any highly motivated, technologically literate student who has time to devote fully to their program of study.

Students must be college-ready in both Math and English to be eligible for this program. Our Placement office can help prospective students determine whether or not they are college-ready. If they are not, students can take courses to become college ready and then enroll in Fast Track once they are eligible.

• What kinds of majors would this program lead to?

A student who completes this program would be well-prepared to transfer in most majors with a few exceptions:

- This program would not work for pre-Nursing students because it does not include the correct prerequisite courses;
- This program would not likely work for students seeking degrees in Science, Technology, Engineering, or Math because it does not include the correct prerequisite courses for those majors.

It is always important to check with the university you plan to transfer to in order to make sure that your program of study aligns with any pre-major expectations. Our counselors can also help with this.

• Is there financial aid or scholarship support for students in this program?

Students in this program are eligible for the same forms of financial aid and scholarships that any SCC student is eligible for. Our Financial Aid Office is here to help.

• What format are the courses offered in?

This program is fully online and asynchronous, meaning that there are no on-campus meetings required, and coursework can be done at a time that works for you. While courses have specific deadlines, students are not required to be present online for any scheduled meetings.

- **Are there entrance requirements?**

Any student with a high school credential (diploma or GED) who is college-ready in Math and English can enroll in this program on a space available basis. Students who are interested in the program are encouraged to participate in an informational interview with a Fast Track Counselor to help understand the fast-paced expectations of the program and to assess their readiness. No student will be denied entrance to the program if they are college-ready in Math and English and if there is space available.

- **Do I have to take any tests to get in?**

Students will work through our placement process to determine their college-readiness in Math and English. There are no tests involved.

- **What if my circumstances change and the accelerated format is just too much for me?**

Students can work with a Fast Track counselor to determine their best course of action. Any student can opt out of this program and enroll in our degree programs that are offered on the traditional academic calendar at a slower pace.

- **What support is available for students in the program?**

Students in this program have access online to counselors, advisors, onboarding specialists, tutors, faculty, and e-learning specialists, just like our students have on campus.

- **What does cohort-based mean?**

Students in this program navigate their educational journey together, supported by a team of dedicated faculty, advisors, and counselors. Students who start in Fall 2024 will have all of their classes together until they graduate in Summer 2025. Research shows that students in cohort-based programs like this are far more likely to succeed because of the relationships they develop, even online, with faculty, staff, and fellow students.

- **How many students are in the program?**

Each cohort has a maximum of 20 students, ensuring a high level of faculty-to-student support and interaction.

- **When can I start?**

New cohorts begin each September. *Apply early to ensure your spot!*



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