

## Running Start Enrollment Information

CHN makes the following suggestions when enrolling in the program.

- Read and make copies of the Running Start law and rules
- Read/copy the [bulletin from Dr. Bergeson, State Superintendent](#). Bulletin No. 086-05 outlines the new OSPI policy for school districts to follow when enrolling home-based students in the Running Start program. You may need to provide this information to your local school district in case they are not familiar with this new policy and procedure. School districts must follow OSPI policy.
- Children enrolled in the Running Start program still need to have a declaration-of-intent form filed each year.
- Parents/students can access the Running Start Program from any school district. You do not have to go through your local school district.
- State law authorizes home educators to issue high school diplomas, issue transcripts, and determine graduation requirements for their children. You do not have to get a diploma from the local school district. It is not necessary to take the GED. The GED has a stigma associated with it and in the case of the military a GED has resulted in the soldier being ranked lower than necessary. Contact Homeschool Legal Defense Association for any assistance with the military [www.HSLDA.org](http://www.HSLDA.org)

Some school districts are telling home educators they must go through a “public school at home” program to enroll in Running Start, this is not accurate information. The proper procedure is to enroll at the local school district office. Many times these programs position themselves to be the point of contact for homeschoolers in the district. Often they create confusion between independent home education and “public school at home” programs. Any problems or questions contact us and we will assist you. [chnow@msn.com](mailto:chnow@msn.com) or contact Kristen Smith at OSPI to report this violation and for assistance, her telephone number is (360) 725-6433.

**PROCESS FOR ENROLLING IN RUNNING START:** This information is for independent homeschoolers accessing the Running Start program and who are not seeking any services from the school district.

- First, your student will need to take the entrance or eligibility exams from the community or technical college to see if they qualify for the program. The community college staff will let you know if your child qualifies for the Running Start program and will give you a print out of their scores. The Running Start program only pays for college level classes. You do not need to provide this information to your school district.
- Copy and complete the [Running Start form for home-based students](#) Form SPI 1600 was developed for home based students as a result of the new legislation passed in 2005. This is an official OSPI form and is to be used by all school districts for home-based students.
- Next you must enroll in program with a local school district. Take Form SPI 1600 the Running Start form for home-based students to your local school district office for their signature. This is for funding purposes only. No other forms or information is required. This form is good for the time they are eligible for the Running Start program (1-2 years). If your school district requests additional information, than stand up for your freedoms and politely ask them to state the law or rule that requires you to do so. NOTE: Homeschool students do not need to fill out immunization forms. It is no longer necessary to work with the local high school or their counselors. Form SPI 1600 is to be filed with and signed by the local school district office.
- Your student is now enrolled in the Running Start program. Take Form SPI 1600 back to the community or technical college and complete their enrollment process.

If you encounter any difficulties in accessing the Running Start program, complain to your state senator or state representative, and please include a copy to us. The legislature intended for this program to be easily accessible to all students. ***RCW 28A.600.390....The rules shall be written to encourage the maximum use of the program and shall not narrow or limit the enrollment options under RCW [28A.600.300](#) through [28A.600.380](#).***

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Updated 05/07



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## SUPERINTENDENT OF PUBLIC INSTRUCTION

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September 9, 2005

( ) Action Required  
(X) Informational

### BULLETIN NO. 086-05 STUDENT SUPPORT AND OPERATIONS

TO: Educational Service District Superintendents  
School District Superintendents  
Secondary School Principals

FROM: Dr. Terry Bergeson, State Superintendent of Public Instruction

RE: Running Start Home-based Instruction Students

The legislature in the 2005 regular session amended Revised Code of Washington (RCW) 28A.600.310 (1) related to the Running Start program and access by students receiving home-based instruction. The amending language specifies that home-based instruction students choosing to enroll in a Running Start program “shall not be counted by the school district in any required state or federal accountability report” under certain conditions. The text of the amended RCW is attached.

The following guidance is provided in order to assist both school district personnel and families of home-based instruction students in the Running Start enrollment and reporting process.

Each local school district will:

- Provide Declaration of Intent to Provide Home-based Instruction forms and Running Start Enrollment Request for Home-based Instruction Students forms in the office of the district superintendent. Students and their families should not be expected to contact the high school to complete this process.
- Accept completed forms by an individual in the superintendent’s office.
- Maintain a record of all students enrolled for Running Start under the provisions of RCW 28A.600.310.

Home-based Instruction families and students will:

- File a Declaration of Intent to Provide Home-Based Instruction by the 15<sup>th</sup> of September for the year preceding the request for Running Start participation.

BULLETIN No. 086-05 SSO

Page 2

August 25, 2005





OFFICE OF SUPERINTENDENT OF PUBLIC INSTRUCTION  
 Learning and Teaching Support  
 Old Capitol Building  
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 Olympia WA 98504-7200

**RUNNING START ENROLLMENT REQUEST  
 HOME-BASED INSTRUCTION STUDENTS ONLY**

Date of request: \_\_\_\_\_ for School Years \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_

District receiving request: \_\_\_\_\_

Public high school of record: \_\_\_\_\_

As parent or legal guardian of: \_\_\_\_\_  
Student's name

I certify that this student is currently receiving home-based instruction under RCW 28A.200 and:

- Has filed a Declaration of Intent to Provide Home-Based Instruction for the current school year.
- Is enrolling in the above-named high school solely for the purpose of participating in courses or programs offered by institutions of higher education.
- Is not requesting a public high school diploma or transcript of course work completed from the aforementioned public high school.
- As the primary parent educator under RCW 28A.200.020 and RCW 28A.600.330, I have determined that my student has attained:
  - 11th grade status, and may not enroll for post secondary credit for more than the equivalent of course work for two academic years. OR
  - 12th grade status, and may not enroll for post secondary credit for more than the equivalent of course work for one academic year.

I understand that I will file a Declaration of Intent to Provide Home-Based Instruction for the next school year by September 15th as required by RCW 28A.200.010(1).

I understand that according to RCW 28A.600.310 home-based students are exempt from the school district's federal and state accountability reporting requirements.

\_\_\_\_\_  
 Printed name of parent or legal guardian

\_\_\_\_\_  
 Signature of parent or legal guardian

\_\_\_\_\_  
 Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
 Signature of school official

\_\_\_\_\_  
 Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
 Title

The original of this form will be retained in this school district office.