

Testing and Eligibility for Running Start

To participate in the Running Start program, a student must be a junior or a senior. The instrument used to determine eligibility is the Compass test. The Compass test is an un-timed, computerized test with sections in reading, writing, and math. If a student passes the reading and writing sections, he/she can take any class at Clark College labeled 100 or above that does not require a qualifying math score or a math prerequisite course. Similarly, if a student passes the math section, he/she can take math courses labeled 100 or above (subject to prerequisite requirements). If a student passes all 3 sections, all of the above are options. Click on the link for Sample Compass Test Questions.

After completion of the test, a student will be given their scores and informed whether or not they passed each section. Students who fail one or more sections of the test can retake the failed sections (retesting instructions and costs will be given to the student at that time). The student then needs to take a copy of the Running Start application to the Running Start office and also one to the welcome center at Clark College (located in the Penguin Union Building, room 002).

Testing Timelines:

Testing for Fall quarter is in January/February/March

Testing for Winter quarter is in October

Testing for Spring quarter is in December

***Once a student passes the Compass test, it is not necessary to retake the test-- in the case that a student does not choose to participate in Running Start initially but later decides to do so.**