RUNNING START PROGRAM (College Credits Earned in High School)

Go to: www.hawaii.edu/runningstart/

The “Running Start” Program allows public high school juniors and seniors to register for college classes at any of the community colleges in the University of Hawai'i system (UH Hilo, UH West O'ahu and the community colleges: Hawai'i CC, Honolulu CC, Kapi'olani CC, Kaua'i CC, Leeward CC, Maui CC and Windward CC) to earn both high school and college credits. “Running Start” students must comply with community college requirements such as:

- Applying for admission
- Achieving the appropriate English and Math level on the COMPASS Placement Test
- Maintaining acceptable academic standing

All UH courses at or above the 100-level are available to Running Start students, provided the student meets any individual course pre-requisites. Areas include:

- Arts, Humanities, Language and Literature
- Oral and Written Communication
- Math and Symbolic Reasoning
- Natural Sciences
- Social Sciences

Students will receive 3 college credits and 1 high school credit for each course completed satisfactorily.

Costs & Scholarships:
In addition to college tuition of $79 per credit hour for Hawai'i students, the cost of books, supplies, and fees are required (note: at UH-Hilo & UH-West O'ahu tuition is double this or more – check www.hawaii.edu/admissions/tuition.html). But the good news is $75,000 in scholarships are available for qualifying students each year. To apply, complete the Running Start application (click on the Free or Reduced field if eligible) at http://gearup.hawaii.edu/runningstart/. For more information call GEAR UP at 956-3879 on O'ahu, or from the neighbor islands at 1-866-808-4327.

Deadlines to apply for scholarships are:
- Fall … apply in April
- Spring … apply in early October
- Summer … apply in March

Kokua: Students are highly encouraged to discuss the “Running Start” program with their parents/guardians and counselor before selecting it as an option. Student success requires motivated individuals with good study skills. Grades earned through “Running Start” will become a part of the student’s permanent college transcript.