

# HIGH SCHOOL 21+

Life experience turned into credits for a high school diploma

*"Never in my wildest of dreams did I ever think that it would be possible to graduate with cap, gown, and a high school diploma. I can't wait to see what the future has in store for me!"*

*Shannon Fowler, HS 21+ graduate, Skagit Valley College*



Austin James, Lower Columbia College    Shannon Fowler, Skagit Valley College

## A springboard to opportunity

Adults who lack a high school diploma now have another way to get a second chance. It's called "High School 21+," a program that turns life experience into credits toward a high school diploma.

## Program overview

- Students must be at least 21 years old.
- Advisors assess students' education and work readiness. Students can demonstrate their knowledge — and receive high school credits — in several ways. These include: work, life, and military experience; a traditional placement test; a prior learning portfolio; and high school and college transcripts.
- Advisors then create a customized plan of action. Students take classes selected especially to fill education gaps, and move ahead as soon as they've mastered the subject matter.
- Students pay \$25 per quarter and the college issues the Washington state diploma.

## The benefits

High School 21+:

- Recognizes life competency in addition to classroom time and tests.
- Opens the door to federal financial aid, vocational training programs or degree programs.
- Is accepted more readily and consistently by the military because it is an actual high school diploma rather than an equivalency.

Students have other ways of earning high school diplomas from community and technical colleges. They can earn an associate degree and ask for a high school diploma after the fact, or work with colleges to complete courses missing from their high school transcripts. Students can also take the GED®.

## A path to college and careers

Adults who lack a high school diploma often attend basic skills classes at two-year colleges. Until now, those classes did not count toward a high school diploma.

High School 21+ adds more rigorous, high-school level education to basic skills classes so students can update their reading, writing, math and English language skills while working toward a high school diploma. The courses then lead to credit-bearing classes that prepare students for college or careers.

Adults with high school diplomas are better prepared to enter college-level programs, earn certificates and degrees, and secure well paying jobs. With High School 21+, adults have a new opportunity to earn a diploma and turn their fortunes around.

*See the reverse side for a list of participating colleges.*

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## High School 21+ colleges

Bates Technical College.....	253-680-7395	Peninsula College .....	360-417-6383
Big Bend Community College.....	509-793-2301	Pierce College Fort Steilacoom.....	253-964-6657
Cascadia College.....	425-352-8158	Pierce College Puyallup .....	252-840-8463
Centralia College .....	360-736-9391 ext. 383	Renton Technical College .....	425-235-2352 ext. 5752
Clark College.....	360-992-2741	Seattle Central College.....	206-934-4180
Clover Park Technical College.....	253-589-4509	Shoreline Community College.....	206-546-4602
Columbia Basin College.....	509-542-4701	Skagit Valley College .....	360-416-7726
Edmonds Community College .....	425-640-1593	South Puget Sound Community College....	360-596-5238
Everett Community College.....	425-388-9291	South Seattle College.....	206-934-5363
Grays Harbor College.....	360-538-4167	Spokane Community College.....	509-533-4600
Green River College.....	253-833-9111 ext. 2315	Spokane Falls Community College.....	509-533-4600
Highline College .....	206-592-3297	Tacoma Community College.....	253-566-5144
Lake Washington Institute of Technology ...	425-739-8363	Walla Walla Community College.....	509-524-4808
Lower Columbia College .....	360-442-2580	Wenatchee Valley College .....	509-682-6790
North Seattle College.....	206-934-7303	Whatcom Community College.....	360-383-3060
Olympic College.....	360-475-7550	Yakima Valley Community College .....	509-574-6850

