Shortest Job First

The process with the shortest/smallest burst time is executed first completely without any intervention and only then the next process begins. Let us understand this scheduling process better along with a real life example.

Eg: Supermarket Express Exit Lane, here the customers with fewer no. of items are allowed to exit quickly and the one’s with more number of items take a longer time to exit.

Let us assume the customers to be processes, the no of items bought by each customer be the burst time of that customer and the express lane is the processor of the system which executes the processes.

When a Customer A fills his basket with 4 items and wishes to exit, he will be allowed to exit immediately as customer A is the first process, meanwhile if more customers arrive at the express lane suppose Customer B with 7items, Customer C with 5items and Customer D with 6items.

Once Customer A has exited, the process with minimal burst time will execute next which is customer C with 5items in our example. Now again processor will check which customer has fewer no. of items between customer D and Customer B. Customer D will execute next as it has lower burst time than Customer B. Finally Customer B will execute last.

In our example, customer B could be starved due to having bought large no. of items, i.e: it has to wait for a long time in the queue for its execution to begin as there are many customers having shorter burst time than that process.