

PREPARING FOR STANDARDIZED TESTING

A GUIDE TO HIGHER EDUCATION



What is the importance of standardized testing?



The **SAT** is an admission test accepted by all U.S. colleges. Colleges use SAT scores for admissions and merit-based scholarships. Similar to the SAT, the **ACT** scores help colleges compare the applicants between each other. Colleges use ACT scores for admissions and merit-based scholarships. You should try your best to get the highest score you can but remember: colleges don't base a prospective student's admission solely off of their scores.

Pre-Test Checklist

- Decide which test(s) you're going to take
- Register for test(s)
- Study, study, study
- Print out your entrance ticket
- Get a good night's sleep before your test

SAT/Subject Tests Dates

October 1, 2016
November 5, 2016
December 3, 2016
January 21, 2017
March 11, 2017
May 6, 2017

ACT Testing Dates

September 10, 2016
October 22, 2016
December 10, 2016
February 11, 2017
April 8, 2017
June 10, 2017

SAT

VS.

ACT

Scored – Scale of 400-1600.

Reading – 5 Passages

Test Length - 3 hours and 45 minutes

Subjects Covered

- Evidence-Based Reading and Writing
- Math: Arithmetic, Algebra I & II, Geometry, Trigonometry and Data Analysis (calculators are allowed on some sections)
- Essay (Optional, however highly recommended)

Registration Fee

\$54.50 (\$43 without essay)

Late Fee

\$28.00

Wait list Fee

\$46.00

Change Fee

\$28.00

Question and Answers

\$18.00

International Fee

\$33 to \$42

Scored – Scale of 1-36.

Reading – 4 Passages

Test Length - 3 hours and 35 minutes

Subjects Covered

- English
- Math: Arithmetic, Algebra I & II, Geometry and Trigonometry (calculators are allowed on all sections)
- Reading
- Science – 1 Science section testing your critical thinking skills.
- Essay (Optional, however highly recommended)

Registration Fee

\$56.50 (\$39.50 without essay)

Late Fee

\$25.00

Wait list Fee

\$49.00

Change Fee

\$24.00

Question and Answers

\$20.00

International Fee

\$40.00

SAT Subject?



SAT Subject Tests are high school-level tests reflecting high school curricula. They indicate a student's readiness to take college-level courses in specific subject areas. Some colleges require or highly recommend taking this test. It is also used for course placement when enrolled in the college.

The test focuses on the particular subject the test was made for.

Scored – Scale of 200-800.

Test Length - 1 hour

Registration Fee


\$26.00

Test Fee

\$20.00 per test

- One point is added for each correct answer.
- 1/4 is subtracted for five-choice questions.
- 1/3 is subtracted for four-choice questions.
- 1/2 is subtracted for three-choice questions.
- If final score is a fraction, the score will round.

I TOOK MY TEST...NOW WHAT?

- **Make sure to have a registered account with College Board and/or ACT.org**
 - **Get your result:** this usually takes 6-8 weeks after you take your test
 - If you're a senior, **submit your scores** to the schools you're applying to.
 - **Consider retaking your test** if you are not satisfied with your score. Studies have shown that your test scores generally don't become any higher after the third attempt.
 - **BEE proud!** You are now one step closer to a higher education.
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Links and resources

Practice ACT/SAT Tests

https://www.powerscore.com/sat/help/content_practice_tests.cfm

SAT/SAT Subject Registration

<https://collegereadiness.collegeboard.org/sat/register>

ACT Registration

<http://www.act.org/content/act/en/products-and-services/the-act.html>

CNH College Information Center

<http://www.cnhkeyclub.org/resources/collegecenter>

Tips & Tricks

- **Bring snacks!** You'll have short breaks during your test so take advantage of them.
- **Don't procrastinate on registering.** Seats can fill up fast!
- **Take your test at the closest location.** You don't want to wake up extra early just to get to a further location on time.
- **Be prepared!** Bring your entrance ticket, ID, calculator, at least 2 No. 2 pencils, eraser, and snacks.
- **Take a practice exam before you start studying** so you can target which areas you need the most help on.
- **Bring a watch and pace yourself accordingly.** Don't rush!
- **Don't leave any question unanswered.** You won't get points taken off if the answer is incorrect.
- **Arrive on time.** Get to the location 15-30 minutes before the test starts.
- **Dress in layers.** Sometimes testing rooms get too hot or cold.
- **Check if you qualify for fee waivers.** Talk to your counselor for more info.

Contributions from the **Region 8** College EXPO Coordinators

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