

## Testing Information

### ACT Versus SAT

The ACT and SAT\* are different tests that are used by colleges to evaluate applicants. The ACT “measures achievement related to high school curricula,” while the SAT\* is considered more of an aptitude test. Most colleges and universities will accept either or both exams.

	ACT	SAT
<b>Length of Tests</b>	3 hours, 35 minutes (includes optional 40-minute Writing Test)	3 hours, 45 minutes
<b>Subjects</b>	English Math Reading Science Writing (optional)	Critical Reading Writing Math
<b>Sections</b>	4 sections: English, Math, Reading, Science (plus optional Writing test)	10 sections: 3 Critical Reading, 3 Math, 3 Writing, 1 Essay
<b>Math</b>	Arithmetic, Algebra, Geometry, Trigonometry	Arithmetic, Algebra, Geometry, Statistics and Probability
<b>Reading</b>	Measures reading comprehension based off 4 reading selections: social studies, natural sciences, literary narrative/prose, and humanities	Measures comprehension, understanding of sentence structure, and vocabulary
<b>Science</b>	Biology, Chemistry, Physics, Earth/Space sciences	N/A
<b>Essay</b>	Optional; “evaluate and analyze” the 3 different perspectives, “state and develop” personal perspective, and “explain the relationship” between own and those given	Required; present and support a point of view on a specific issue
<b>Scoring</b>	Composite Score is the average of the four test scores from a range of 1 (low) to 36 (high)	Each section is scored on a 200-800 point scale for a total of 2400 score

For more information, visit the [ACT](#) and [SAT](#) websites.

**\*NOTE:** The College Board has redesigned the SAT and the new test will be released for the March 2016 test date. The above information will be updated accordingly, but in the meantime, click [here](#) to learn more about the redesign.

\*Information compiled from the College Board and the ACT.

## **SAT Subject Tests**

SAT Subject Tests are one hour, multiple-choice tests in specific subjects. Unlike the SAT, which measures more general abilities, Subject Tests measures your knowledge of particular subjects and your ability to apply that knowledge.

In general, only the most competitive colleges require Subject Tests for admissions purposes, and most require two (2) Subject Tests. You should consult the colleges you are interested in to determine if they require Subject Tests for admission, and to determine which tests you should take and how many.