

SAT or ACT, Which One is for Me?

	ACT	SAT
Stands for	American College Test	Scholastic Aptitude Test
What is tested	ACT assesses knowledge of subjects taught in high school. Tends to be more straightforward	SAT measures literacy and writing skills, and assesses how well a student analyzes and solves problems. Tends to be trickier
Website	www.actstudent.org	sat.collegeboard.com/home
When to take the test	You may begin spring of Junior year. ACT examination is offered six times a year in the months of February, April, June, September, October, December.	You may begin spring of Junior year. SAT examination is offered seven times a year in the months of January, March, May, June, October, November, December.
Test Duration	3 hours and 25 minutes (including 30 minutes for an optional writing test).	3 hours and 50 minutes
Major Sections	5 major sections- English, Math, Reading, and Science Reasoning, and Writing (optional). <i>Optional Writing section- ALL STUDENTS SHOULD TAKE WRITING. ALL UC's and many Private schools require writing.</i>	3 major sections-Evidence Based Reading & Writing, Math, and essay (optional). <i>Optional Writing section- ALL STUDENTS SHOULD TAKE WRITING. ALL UC's and many Private schools require writing.</i>
Top Score	36	1600
Accepted by	All CSUs and UCs, therefore a student may take one or the other; there's no need to take both	All CSUs and UCs, therefore a student may take one or the other; there's no need to take both
Cost	ACT Plus Writing \$58.50 (\$42.50 w/out essay) <i>fee waiver available to those who qualify</i>	SAT plus writing \$54.50 (\$43 w/out essay) <i>fee waiver available to those who qualify</i>
Register	www.actstudent.org Late Registration is available for an additional fee.	www.collegeboard.com Late Registration is available for an additional fee.
	DON'T FORGET TO SEND YOUR SCORES!!! IF you send them when you sign up; it is free. May send additional schools later for an additional fee.	
	May send scores to 4 schools for free	May send up to 4 schools your scores for free. BETTER OPTION: send them to ALL CSU's by entering the code 3594 (will come up as California State University Mentor, Long Beach). Sending scores to one UC actually sends them to all UC's.