

NORTH MESQUITE HS

SENIOR CHECKLIST

ADMISSIONS TESTS

There are two major tests used for college admittance; the SAT (Scholastic Aptitude Test) and the ACT (American College Test). Colleges will accept either test. Some colleges have other testing requirements that you must follow (ex. The SAT II). Don't be confused; consult the college catalog or your counselor for which test(s) you need to take and when you must submit the score. You don't need to wait to apply until after you have taken the test, start the enrollment process now.

The **SAT** is a five-hour test that attempts to measure your ability to do college work. The S.A.T. reports reading, math and writing scores, which are added together to form a composite score. Each section of the SAT is scored on a scale of 200-800, and the writing section will contain two sub-scores. There is a penalty for guessing on the S.A.T. (1/4 of a point for each incorrect answer). If you can eliminate two or more choices, then you should make an intelligent guess. The website is collegeboard.com.

The **ACT** consists of tests in four areas: English, Math, Reading, and Science Reasoning (the writing test is optional but almost all colleges require it). These scores are averaged together to form a composite score. Each of the scores as well as the composite score can range from 1 to 36. **You are not penalized for guessing.** Compare your score with the average ACT at the college you plan to attend. This information can be found in The College Handbook. The ACT website is act.org.

- It is a good idea to take a practice ACT or SAT test before actually taking the exam. Practice tests are available in the Counseling Center. Also, number2.com has some free helps.
- If you plan on enrolling in a community college before enrolling in a four year college, you may choose not to take the ACT or SAT and simply take the community college placement test.
- When you request that scores be sent to colleges all of your scores including those from previous tests are sent. Send your scores to four different colleges, these first four are sent free.

To register for these tests, pick up a packet in the counseling center. Then the rest is up to you! Take the packet home, choose a test center (usually the Eastfield or Mesquite High School Testing Center), fill out the registration form, put your check in the envelope, and mail off the materials (you can also register on-line). You will receive an admission ticket in the mail for admittance to the test. **DO NOT lose this ticket.** You will be asked to show it the morning of the test. You will also need a valid picture I.D. Your scores will be reported to you from four to six weeks after you have taken the test. Test dates for 2010/11 are listed in this handout. Remember that you are responsible for completing and mailing the registration forms on time.

The high school code number for North Mesquite High School is **444-712** for all tests. If you are truly undecided about a college, it is better to take a test that you do not need than to decide next July to go to a college requiring the test that you did not take. Any of the tests may be taken as many times as you want to pay for them during the year.

SAT 2011-2012 DATES			
DATE	TEST	REGULAR DEADLINE	LATE DEADLINE (A FEE APPLIES)
October 1, 2011	SAT & Subject Tests	September 9, 2011	September 21, 2011
November 5, 2011	SAT & Subject Tests	October 7, 2011	October 21, 2011
December 3, 2011	SAT & Subject Tests	November 8, 2011	November 20, 2011
January 28, 2012	SAT & Subject Tests	December 30, 2011	January 13, 2012
March 10, 2012	SAT & Subject Tests	February 10, 2012	February 24, 2012
May 5, 2012	SAT & Subject Tests	April 6, 2012	April 20, 2012
June 2, 2012	SAT & Subject Tests	May 8, 2012	May 22, 2012

ACT 2011-2012 DATES		
DATE	REGULAR DEADLINE	LATE DEADLINE (A FEE APPLIES)
September 10, 2011	August 12, 2011	August 26, 2011
October 22, 2011	September 16, 2011	September 30, 2011
December 10, 2011	November 4, 2011	November 18, 2011
February 11, 2012	January 13, 2012	January 20, 2011
April 14, 2012	March 9, 2012	March 23, 2012
June 9, 2012	May 4, 2012	May 18, 2012

(VIEW MORE INFO AT MESQUITEISD.ORG/NMHS/COUNSELING)

Equal access to all programs and activities is assured students in the Mesquite Independent School District without regard to race, religion, color, sex, national origin, and/or handicapping condition.