

# SAT or ACT - Which test is right for you?

Colleges accept both tests equally, so the choice is yours!

	SAT	ACT
<b>Why Take It</b>	Colleges use SAT scores for admissions and merit-based scholarships.	Colleges use ACT scores for admissions and merit-based scholarships.
<b>Test Structure</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Math</li> <li>• Reading</li> <li>• Writing and Language</li> <li>• (The redesigned SAT asks you to apply your reading, writing, language, and math knowledge and skills to answer questions in science, history, and social studies contexts.)</li> <li>• Essay (Optional)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Math</li> <li>• Reading</li> <li>• English</li> <li>• Science</li> <li>• Essay (Optional)</li> </ul>
<b>Length</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 3 hours (without essay)</li> <li>• 3 hours, 50 minutes (with essay)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 2 hours, 55 minutes (without essay)</li> <li>• 3 hours, 40 minutes (with essay)</li> </ul>
<b>Reading</b>	5 reading passages	4 reading passages
<b>Science</b>	None	1 science section testing your critical thinking skills (not your specific science knowledge)
<b>Math</b>	Covers: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Arithmetic</li> <li>• Algebra I &amp; II</li> <li>• Geometry, Trigonometry and Data Analysis</li> </ul>	Covers: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Arithmetic</li> <li>• Algebra I &amp; II</li> <li>• Geometry and Trigonometry</li> </ul>
<b>Tools</b>	Some math questions don't allow you to use a calculator.	You can use a calculator on all math questions.
<b>Essays</b>	Optional. The essay will test your comprehension of a source text.	Optional. The essay will test how well you evaluate and analyze complex issues.
<b>How It's Scored</b>	Scored on a scale of 400–1600	Scored on a scale of 1–36
<b>Cost</b>	\$55.00	\$60.00 without essay; \$85.00 with essay

