

College	ACT	SAT	CLT
Auburn University	24 - 30	1240 - 1370	Not applicable
Hillsdale College	30 - 34	1370 - 1480	90 - 102
Samford University	23 - 29	1090 -1265	Started accepting in 2023
University of Alabama	22 - 31	1090 - 1370	Not applicable
University of Virginia	32 - 34	1400 - 1540	Not applicable
Covenant College	24 - 30	1130 - 1350	81 - 96
Mississippi State University	21 - 29	1070 - 1280	Not applicable
Troy University	above a 20	above a 950	Not applicable
Air Force Academy	28 - 33	1320 - 1470	Not applicable

Average Scores for Admitted Students in Class of 2023

What is ahead?

Standardized Tests

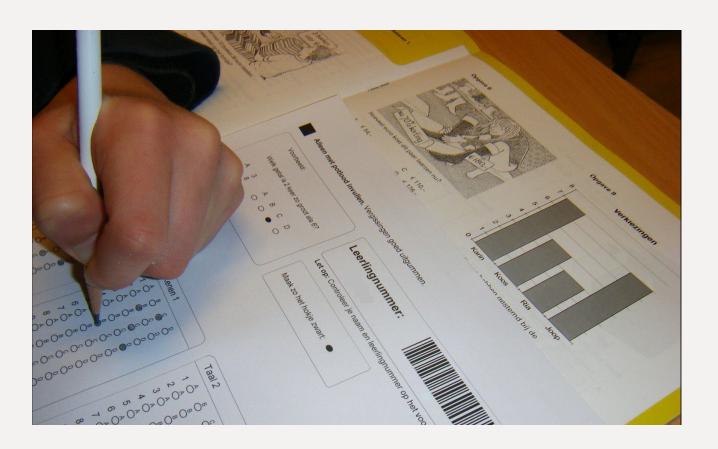
- Types of standardized tests
- Details and costs
- Using tests to apply to college
- Timeline for tests
- Which test is right
- How to increase your score
- Test prep resources
- Using tests for college credit

Transcripts

- What colleges are looking for
- How plan course track

- The <u>use of standardized testing</u> in the United States began in 1840
- A test is standardized when all the students taking the test respond to the same set of carefully selected questions
- This allows people who look at the results to make comparisons among groups of students
- Questions on these tests tend to be multiple choice or true-false because that raises the chances that results are fair and objective
- The process of creating a standardized test and interpreting the results requires a lot of different expertise in curriculum, child development, cultural and linguistic differences, statistics, and a field of study called psychometrics

What is a Standardized Test?





Standardized Tests for High School Students

- <u>SAT</u> (Scholastic Assessment Test)
- ACT (American College Testing)
- CLT (Classic Learning Test)
- <u>TOEFL</u> (Test of English as a Foreign Language)
- <u>IETLS</u> (International English Language Testing System)
- AP (Advanced Placement) exams
- <u>PSAT</u> (Preliminary Scholastic Assessment Test)
- <u>CLEP</u> (College-Level Examination Program)



Graduate and Professional School Admissions Tests:

- GRE Graduate Record Examinations liberal arts, science, or math graduate admissions
- GMAT Graduate Management Admission Test business schools or study for Master's in Business Administration (MBA) programs
- <u>LSAT</u> Law School Admission Test law school admissions
- MCAT Medical College Admission Test medical school admissions
- <u>DAT</u> Dental Admission Test dental school admissions
- <u>PCAT</u> Pharmacy College Admission Test pharmacy school admissions
- OAT Optometry Admission Testing Program optometry school admissions



The **ACT** is a two-hour and fifty-five-minute multiple-choice exam that measures English, mathematics, reading, and science reasoning skills. Cost is \$68 for testing, \$93 with writing.

The test battery includes four parts:

- 1. 45-minute, 75-item English test
- 2. 60-minute, 60-item **Mathematics** test
- 3. 35-minute, 40-item Reading test
- 4. 35-minute, 40-item **Science** reasoning test

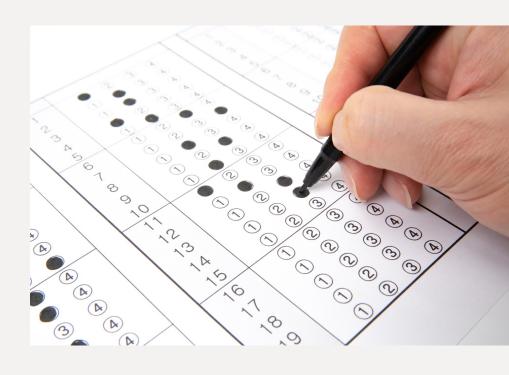
Each of the tests is scored on a scale from 1 to 36

The four scores are averaged into a **Composite** score of 1 to 36

Average test score within the range of 17 to 23

Test results are released within 2 weeks

Cost of score report is \$18.50 (4 free reports are available)





The **SAT** is a three-hour multiple-choice exam that measures verbal and mathematical reasoning. Cost is \$60 for testing. Digital *only* testing starting in March 2024. No writing section available.

The test is broken up into 4 parts:

- 1. 65-minute, 52 questions in Reading
- 2. 35-minute, 44 Writing and Language items
- 3. 25-minute, 20 questions Math No Calculator
- 4. 55-minute, 38 questions **Math** with Calculator

Each of the sections generates a score on a scale of 200 to 800

Total scores ranging from 400 to 1600

Average test score around 1000, with verbal and math sections each around a 500

Test results are released within two weeks

Cost of score report is \$14 (four free report when registering for test)



The **CLT** is a digital two-hour, multiple-choice exam that measures English, mathematical, and critical reasoning skills. Cost is \$59 for testing. Optional essay is included for in school testing.

This exam can be taken at school or with <u>remote proctoring</u> at the student's home on a computer. The test is broken up into 3 parts:

- 1. 40-minute, 40 Verbal Reasoning items
- 2. 35-minute, 40 **Grammar and Writing** items
- 3. 45-minute, 40 Quantitative Reasoning items

The test is scored based on the total number of correct answers out of a possible 120

Scores are available within 8 days of taking the test

Scores can instantly share them with an unlimited number of colleges and universities for free



The digital **PSAT** is a two-hour and fourteen-minute, multiple-choice test that measures the knowledge and skills you have in reading, writing, and math.

- The adaptive test includes 2 sections, each with 2 modules. The second module adapts depending on how you perform on first module:
 - 32-minute, 27-item Reading and Writing 32-minute, 27 questions – harder or easier 35-minute, 22-item Math with calculator 35-minute, 22 questions – harder or easier
- Offered in October, average PSAT score is a 920
- Used to determine National Merit Finalist

AP Exams

- Around 38 subject exams, 2-3 hours per test
- Two parts (multiple choice and free response)
- <u>Exams</u> given in <u>May</u> at an approved school
- Scores range from 1 to 5

CLEP Exams

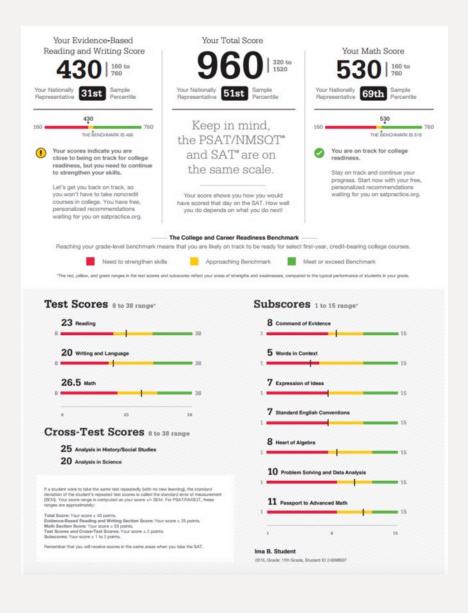
- 90-120 minutes long, taken at local Test Center
- Over 2,900 <u>colleges</u> grant credit for CLEP exams
- Scores range from 20 to 80
- Exam Topics





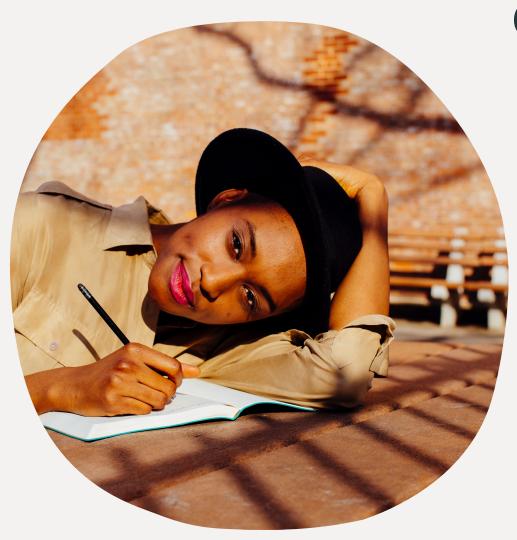
Choose the Right College

- Every college has a middle 50% range for ACT or SAT, or a minimum CLT score
- Look at Common Data Set for previous class or ask college recruiter for the average score
- Compare your scores to middle 50%
- If you are below, this is a **Reach** school
- If you are within range, this is a Target school
- If you are above, this college is a **Likely** school
- One exception is that a college with acceptance rate of 20% or lower – these colleges are Reach for everyone. If your score is not in their middle 50%, apply score optional



Option 1: Set Goal and Apply with Scores

- Look at past score reports as study guide (see PSAT report)
- Sign up for prep course or use prep material
- Focus on weaknesses and practice, practice, practice!
- Practice in timed environment
- If distracted or nervous test in public environment and learn relaxation techniques
- Know test strategies and tricks more on this
- Brain rest the week before with proper nutrition and sleep before exam. Water and healthy snacks during the exam
- Optimal score by December of senior year in high school



Option 2: Apply Without Scores

- Due to Covid, many colleges went score optional because of imbalance of testing availability
- Many stayed test optional and found standardized tests were not best measure of a students' success
- Can apply without scores, just don't report them even if you did take an exam
- Need to have strong transcript, essay and letters of recommendation – may be required to provide resume or graded paper
- Test-blind means that scores are neither required nor considered if submitted as part of application: University of California System

Timeline for Testing

- October of 10th grade year Practice PSAT
- Use score report to study for 11th grade
- October of 11th grade year PSAT
- Fall/Winter take practice ACT and SAT
- Winter Determine test and set goal with score
- February 11th grade year ACT Prep Course and February ACT at Westminster
- Summer 12th grade year another SAT or ACT after more focused test prep class
- Summer decide if applying with Option 1 or Option 2
- Fall 12th grade year last SAT or ACT by December
- 11th/12th grade year AP, CLEP for college credit



Which one should I take?

ACT or SAT are Different, but Neither is Easier

- Test format and sections. The SAT includes reading, writing and language, math (with calculator) and math (no calculator). The ACT includes English, math, reading, science, and an optional 40-minute essay test that measures your writing skills.
- Calculator rules. The SAT includes a section in which the use of calculators is not allowed. ACT test-takers can use a calculator for all math questions.
- Test length and number of questions. The SAT is three hours long. The ACT is two hours and 55 minutes without the essay section; with the essay, it is three hours and 35 minutes long.
- Science section. Unlike the ACT, the SAT does not have a dedicated science section.
- Math sections. Both tests cover arithmetic, algebra I and II, geometry and trigonometry, but the SAT also covers data analysis, while the ACT covers probability and statistics.



THE SAT (VS) THE ACT

- Fewer Geometry Questions
- · More Time per Question
- No-calculator Math Section



- · Lots of Geometry
- Faster Paced
- Tough Science Section



TIMING & SCORING



65m Reading

35m Writing

200 - 800 points

Math 25m (No Calculator)

Math

55m

1-36

1-36

45m

35m

English

Reading

1-36

60m

Math

1-36

35m

Science

Total Points

400 - 1600

200 - 800

points

1 - 36

Total Points

Time per Question











Number of Questions

SAT

SAT

60

ACT

Number of Sections

SAT

ACT

Total Time ACI 60 minutes

Time Per Question

ACT

Formulas

The SAT provides a reference table of common formulas.

The ACT does not provide formulas for reference.

The ACT Math section allows

the use of calculators. The SAT has one NO

one calculator section.

CALCULATOR section and



The SAT Math sections include 45 multiple choice questions and 13 student-produced response questions (i.e., grid-in questions)

Geometry Focus

The ACT has a much greater emphasis on Geometry. In contrast, the SAT focuses more on Algebra, word problems, and Data Analysis questions that ask you to incorporate information from tables and charts into your calculations.

83s

6% SAT

23% ACT



Writing



Reading

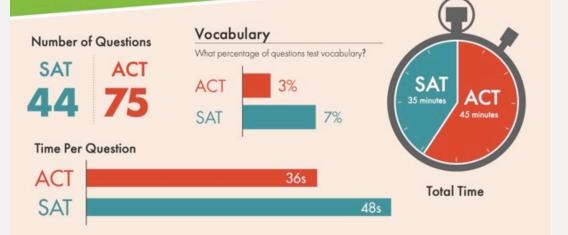




Science

READING Time Per Question ACT 53s SAT 75s SAT Vocabulary **Number of Questions** What percentage of questions test vocabulary? SAT ACT **Total Time** ACT SAT 17% **Passage Complexity** Do the Reading sections have SAT ACT **Graphs and Charts?** Avg. words per 25 SAT ACT Peak words per 39 26 sentence 13.5 Avg Grade Level* Yes, relating to No, only on the 10-16 Grade Level 8-14 Science section two passages Fluctuation *Flesch-Kincoid readability assessment Number of Passages **Topics Covered** · Literature · Science (2) . History/Soc. Studies (2) Humanities · Prose Fiction · Social Science · Natural Science

WRITING/ENGLISH



Do the Writing/English sections have

Graphs and Charts?

SAT

or two passages

Yes, relating to one



No, only on the Science section

GRAMMAR VS. RHETORICAL SKILLS



*The difference between the 49% Rhetorical Skills on the ACT and 55% on the SAT feels even greater in practice, as the questions on the SAT require a fuller understanding of the passage.

Passage Complexity



Average words per sentence



*Flesch-Kincaid readability assessment

Literature: ACT, SAT or CLT?

The SAT consists of about 40% modern (post 1900) literature and 30% 1700–1800 with the remaining 30% for the 1600s and Renaissance.

The CLT's literature contains very few modern literature pieces, but more classics. These are the texts that our modern society is built on.

The ACT focuses more on writing and grammar in what they call the English portion of the test. Comprehension is shown by choosing the proper meaning or word choice for select sections of the text.

CLT SAT®	CLT SAT®	CLT SAT®	CLT SAT®	CLT SAT®	CLT SAT®
120 ← 1600	106 ← 1470	92 ← 1300	78 ← 1150	64 ← 1040	50 ← 920
119 ← 1600	105 ← 1460	91 ← 1290	77 ← 1140	63 ← 1030	49 ← 910
118 ← 1590	104 ← 1440	90 ← 1270	76 ← 1140	62 ← 1020	48 ← 900
117 ← 1580	103 ← 1430	89 ← 1260	75 ← 1130	61 ← 1010	47 ← 890
116 ← 1580	102 ← 1420	88 ← 1250	74 ← 1120	60 ← 1000	46 ← 880
115 ← 1570	101 ← 1410	87 ← 1240	73 ← 1110	59 ← 1000	45 ← 870
114 ← 1560	100 ← 1390	86 ← 1230	72 ← 1100	58 ← 990	44 ← 860
113 ← 1550	99 ← 1380	85 ← 1220	71 ← 1090	57 ← 980	43 ← 850
112 ← 1540	98 ← 1370	84 ← 1210	70 ← 1080	56 ← 970	42 ← 840
111 ← 1530	97 ← 1360	83 ← 1200	69 ← 1080	55 ← 960	41 ← 840
110 ← 1520	96 ← 1340	82 ← 1190	68 ← 1070	54 ← 950	40 ← 830
109 ← 1500	95 ← 1330	81 ← 1180	67 ← 1060	53 ← 940	39 ← 820
108 ← 1490	94 ← 1320	80 ← 1170	66 ← 1050	52 ← 940	38 ← 810
107 ← 1480	93 ← 1310	79 ← 1160	65 ← 1040	51 ← 930	6

Math: ACT, SAT or CLT?

Most mathematics sections of the ACT and SAT are similar. They all include mostly Algebra,
Geometry, Algebra 2, and a few
Trigonometry questions

Most recommend these tests for juniors and seniors after completed Algebra 2

The math questions on the CLT Quantitative Reasoning test cover Pre-Algebra, Algebra, and Geometry, Trigonometry, as well as Logic.

CLT ACT® CL							
119 \leftarrow 36 105 \leftarrow 33 91 \leftarrow 27 77 \leftarrow 23 63 \leftarrow 20 49 \leftarrow 16 118 \leftarrow 36 104 \leftarrow 32 90 \leftarrow 27 76 \leftarrow 23 62 \leftarrow 19 48 \leftarrow 16 117 \leftarrow 36 103 \leftarrow 32 89 \leftarrow 27 75 \leftarrow 23 61 \leftarrow 19 47 \leftarrow 16 116 \leftarrow 36 102 \leftarrow 32 88 \leftarrow 26 74 \leftarrow 22 60 \leftarrow 19 46 \leftarrow 16 115 \leftarrow 36 101 \leftarrow 31 87 \leftarrow 26 73 \leftarrow 22 59 \leftarrow 19 45 \leftarrow 15 114 \leftarrow 35 100 \leftarrow 31 86 \leftarrow 26 72 \leftarrow 22 58 \leftarrow 19 44 \leftarrow 15 113 \leftarrow 35 99 \leftarrow 30 85 \leftarrow 25 71 \leftarrow 21 57 \leftarrow 18 43 \leftarrow 15 112 \leftarrow 35 98 \leftarrow 30 84 \leftarrow 25 70 \leftarrow 21 56 \leftarrow 18 42 \leftarrow 15 111 \leftarrow 35 97 \leftarrow 30 83 \leftarrow 25 69 \leftarrow 21 55 \leftarrow 18 41 \leftarrow 15 110 \leftarrow 34 96 \leftarrow 29 82 \leftarrow 24 68 \leftarrow 21 54 \leftarrow 17 40 \leftarrow 15 109 \leftarrow 34 95 \leftarrow 29 81 \leftarrow 24 67 \leftarrow 21 53 \leftarrow 17 39 \leftarrow 14 108 \leftarrow 34 94 \leftarrow 28 80 \leftarrow 24 66 \leftarrow 20 52 \leftarrow 17 38 \leftarrow 14 <td>9</td> <td>CLT ACT®</td> <td>CLT ACT®</td> <td>CLT ACT®</td> <td>CLT ACT®</td> <td>CLT ACT®</td> <td>CLT ACT®</td>	9	CLT ACT®					
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		109 ← 34	95 ← 29	81 ← 24	67 ← 21	53 ← 17	39 ← 14
107 ← 33 93 ← 28 79 ← 24 65 ← 20 51 ← 17		108 ← 34	94 ← 28	80 ← 24	66 ← 20	52 ← 17	38 ← 14
		107 ← 33	93 ← 28	79 ← 24	65 ← 20	51 ← 17	

Writing: ACT, SAT or CLT?

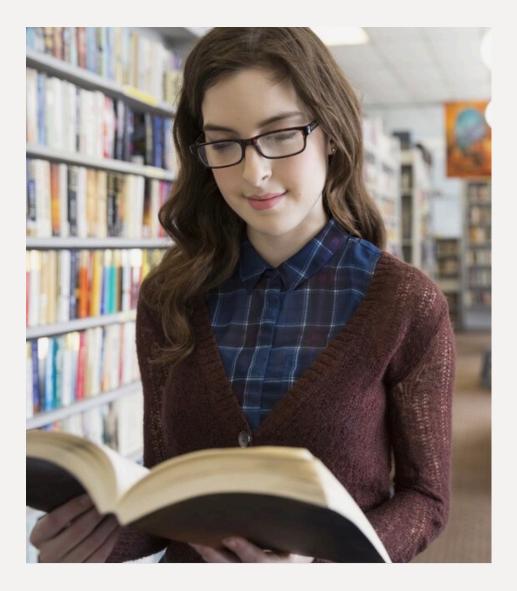
The SAT no longer has an essay writing portion. The ACT requires an additional fee for the writing portion, while the CLT includes the essay in the original cost. The ACT essay prompts are looking specifically for a thesis and the format of a good paper including the grammar. It is scored from 1-12. The CLT essay is ungraded and sent as a writing sample with the CLT scores.

While all three of these test options are developed for students entering college, all three have their benefits and drawbacks. Take a practice test in each and determine which is right for you.

Summary:

- The CLT is more affordable, shorter (2hrs), online with quicker results, and more classical in its literature approach. However, it is not accepted by all colleges.
- The SAT and ACT are accepted by most colleges for admissions and scholarships.
- The SAT provides more time per question than the ACT. Comparatively, the ACT is more time intensive, moving at a quicker pace than the SAT.
- The ACT includes science and allows for a calculator on all math sections.
- ACT involves slightly more complex and a broader range of math topics, with a higher concentration of geometry questions, logarithms, matrices and trigonometry.

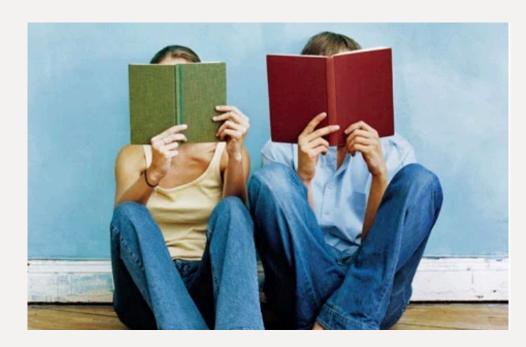
How do I increase my score for admission or scholarships?

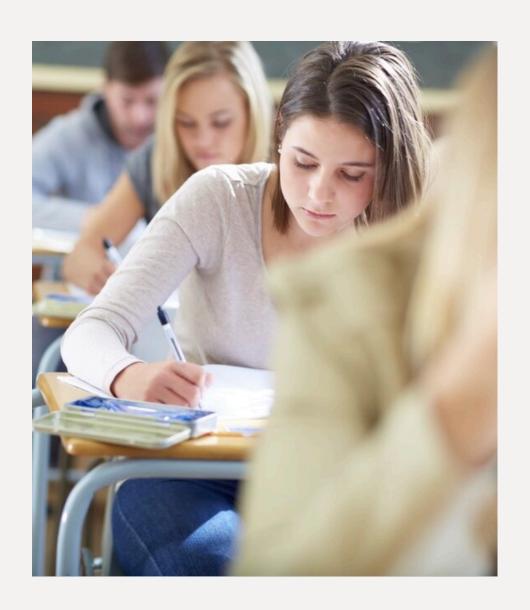


- Take college admissions exams <u>as soon as possible</u> during junior or senior year, after completing Algebra 2
- Taking tests early on allows students more opportunities to retest if they are unsatisfied with their initial scores
- <u>SAT</u> and <u>ACT</u> test prep courses vary in many ways, such as class size and teaching style, or in-person or virtual options
- Consider how much you can pay for a class and ideal learning environment
- Consider free alternatives such as <u>Khan Academy</u>, the <u>College Panda</u>, and test prep materials found at libraries
- Form study groups with classmates to prepare for college admissions exams - make it fun!

Test Preparation and Strategy

- Following a practice test, you should <u>evaluate performance</u> and identify areas for improvement
- Using scored tests, look for patterns in incorrect answers (algebra, grammar, reading graphs...)
- You only need to answer 75% questions correctly on the science or math of the ACT to score a 26
- Answer easy questions that you can knock out first, and then go back to the hard questions
- Exams no longer have a guessing penalty, which may raise their scores when they are running out of time
- Students have an average of 1 minute per question
- <u>Timing advice</u> skim reading sections for context, looking at the questions and then reading more in-depth
- With practice, test-takers learn their natural pacing and will be able to gauge when a minute or so has passed
- Trust instincts when it comes to the language sections





Preparing for Test Day

- Success requires several rounds of <u>practice tests</u> to develop the endurance to focus for that long.
- It is important to get enough sleep because it will affect one's ability to sustain focus
- Students should bring a snack to enjoy during each break to keep their energy and glucose levels up
- Keeping stress levels down is also important, so use meditation and other calming techniques. Students should <u>remain relaxed</u> and confident – this come with feeling prepared!
- Know place, time and what to <u>bring</u> (or not) to test
- Know how to deal with <u>test anxiety</u> if this is a factor in performance. Have a positive mental attitude
- Know how to battle fatigue and create momentum if this is factor in performance

Local Test Prep Resources

This list is provided as a courtesy for Westminster families. Westminster does not recommend or endorse any one tutor or program.

We encourage asking other Westminster families who they have used.



Faye Nichols

Faye@fayenicholsact.com

Matt Haynes - math/science tutor

205-823-2166

All Pencils Down

questions@allpencilsdown.com George Mizzell - math/science 205-602-2259

Becky Cox, M.Ed. 205-907-4400

Carraway Center for Teaching and Learning (Birmingham)

Kimberly Carraway

info@carrawaycenterbirmingham.

205-837-4700

Turner Tutoring

Sheryl Turner
3301 Tartan Lane, Birmingham,
Alabama 35242,
205-706-8173

Test Prep Courses

Prep Scholar - How to get a Perfect ACT Score

Best ACT Prep Courses - Review and Comparison

Best SAT Prep Course - Review and Comparison

CLT - 10 Prep Tips

CLT Student Guide (Available on <u>Amazon</u>)

Free SAT Test Prep Resources

Free ACT Test Prep Resources

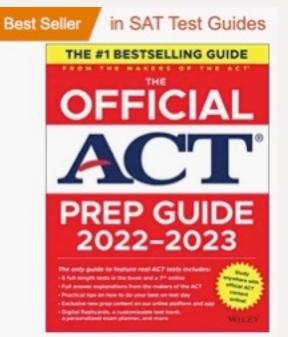
CLT Test Prep Resources

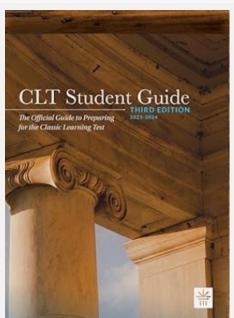
Practice Exams

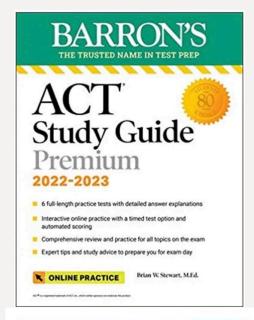
SAT Practice Tests

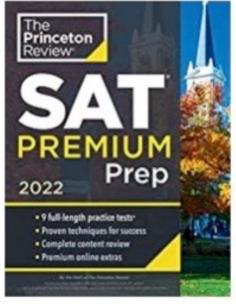
ACT Practice Tests

CLT Practice Test









Samford University Credit by Examination Policies

Advanced Placement (AP)

Subject	Samford Course Title (if applicable)	Minimum Score	Credit
Art History	Elective credit	3	3
Art, Studio: Drawing	ART 120 - Beginning Drawing (3)	3	3
Art, Studio: 2D Design	Elective credit	3	3
Art, Studio: 3D Design	Elective credit	3	3
Biology	BIOL 105 - Principles of Biology (4)	3	4
Chemistry	CHEM 205 & 206 - Foundations of Chemistry I (4) & Laboratory (1)	4	5
Chinese Lang/Culture	CHIN 102 - Elementary Chinese II (4)	3	4
Chinese Lang/Culture**	CHIN 201 & 202 - Intermediate Chinese I & II (4 each)	4	8
Computer Science A	COSC 110 - Introduction to Programming I (4)	4	4
Computer Science Principles	COSC 107 - Introduction to Computer Science (4)	4	4
Economics: Macro	ECON 201 - Principles of Macroeconomics (3)	3	3
Economics: Micro	ECON 202 - Principles of Microeconomics (3)	3	3
English Lang/Comp*	UCR 101 - University Core: Rhetoric (4)	4	4
English Lit/Comp*	UCR 101 - University Core: Rhetoric (4)	4	4
Environmental Science	BIOL 107 - Contemporary Biology (4)	3	4
French Lang/Culture	FREN 102 - Elementary French II (4)	3	4
French Lang/Culture**	FREN 201 & 202 - Intermediate French I & II (4 each)	4	8
German Lang/Culture	GER 102 - Elementary German II (4)	3	4
German Lang/Culture**	GER 201 & 202 - Intermediate German I & II (4 each)	4	8
Govt/Pol (U.S.)	POLS 205 - Introduction to American Politics (4)	4	4
Govt/Pol (Comparative)	Elective credit	4	4
History: European	HIST 200 - World History since 1500 (4)	4	4
History: U.S.	HIST 218 - Modern America (4)	4	4
History: World	HIST 200 - World History since 1500 (4)	5	4
Human Geography	GEOG 101 - Global Geography: Places, Landscapes, and Regions (4)	4	4
Italian Lang/Culture	ITAL 102 - Elementary Italian II (4)	3	4
Italian Lang/Culture**	ITAL 201 & 202 - Intermediate Italian I & II (4 each)	4	8
Japanese Lang/Culture	JAPN 102 - Elementary Japanese II (4)	3	4
Japanese Lang/Culture**	JAPN 201 & 202 - Intermediate Japanese I & II (4 each)	4	8
Latin	LATN 102 - Elementary Latin II (4)	3	4
Latin	LATN 201 - Intermediate Latin I (4)	4	4
Latin**	LATN 201 & 202 - Intermediate Latin I & II (4 each)	5	8
Math: Calculus AB	MATH 240 - Calculus I (4)	3	4
Math: Calculus BC	MATH 240 - Calculus I (4) AND MATH 260 - Calculus II (4)	3	8
Math: Calculus BC AB Subgrade***	MATH 240 - Calculus I (4)	3	4
Math, Statistics	MATH 210 - Elementary Statistics (4)	3	4
Music, Theory †	MUSC 1510 - Theory I: The Syntax of Music (3)	3	3
Physics 1	PHYS 100 - Physics for Society (4) OR PHYS 101 - Gen Physics I (4)	3	4
Physics 2	PHYS 102 - General Physics II (4)	3	4
Physics C: Elec/Magnetism	PHYS 204 - Physics II (5)	4	5
Physics C: Elec/Magnetism Physics C: Mechanics	PHYS 203 - Physics I (5)	4	5
•			1
Psychology	PSYC 101 - General Psychology (4)	3	4
Spanish Lang/Culture	SPAN 102 - Elementary Spanish II (4)		
Spanish Lang/Culture**	SPAN 201 & 202 - Intermediate Spanish I & II (4 each)	4	8
Spanish Lit/Culture	SPAN 301 - Conversation/Composition/Grammar (4)	4	4

College Credit by Exam

AP Credits

AP courses are challenging, as they are designed to be like college courses. A student's score could earn credits. See AP Credit chart for Samford University.

AP credits are accepted at most schools.

ACT and SAT

The ACT and SAT can perform double duty: college admissions and college credit. Earn an acceptable score according to college guidelines and gain English and math credits. Only a few schools do this.

Example: Auburn University

ENGL 1100 - Composition I: 30 on ACT English or 680 on SAT

ENGL 1120 - Composition II: 35 on ACT English or 720 on SAT

College-Level Examination Program (CLEP)

Examination	Minimum Score	UA Course Equivalent	Credit
History and Social Sciences			
American Government	50	PSC 101	3
History of the United States I: Early Colonization to 1877	52	HY 103	3
History of the United States II: 1865 to the Present	52	HY 104	3
Human Growth & Development	52	HD 101	3
Principles of Macroeconomics	50	EC 111	3
Principles of Microeconomics	50	EC 110	3
Introductory Psychology	54	PY 101	3
Introductory Sociology	52	SOC 101	3
Western Civilization I: Ancient Near East to 1648	52	HY 101	3
Western Civilization II: 1648 to Present	52	HY 102	3
Foreign Languages			
French, Level 1 and Level 2	Score of 50–55	FR 101 & FR 102	8
French, Level 1 and Level 2	Score of 56-61	FR 201	11

College Credit by Exam

CLEP Exams

Administered by the College
Board, students of any age or
background can take <u>CLEP tests</u>
to earn college credit. See a
sample of the University of
Alabama required scores for
CLEP credit.

CLEP credits are accepted at many schools, but not all.

Keep the tests in perspective

Test scores tend to matter less than the transcript. Colleges are more interested in grades in high school courses, college prep courses, and rigor of high school curriculum.

"There are many students we've denied with perfect test scores because they didn't have anything else to set them apart,"

-Douglas Christiansen, vice provost for university enrollment affairs and dean of admissions and financial aid at

Vanderbilt University



The Transcript:

What colleges are looking for

- GPA and grades
- Core subjects
- Curriculum rigor and demonstrated interest
- Grade trends and school comparison
- Standardized test scores
- Types of courses (honors, AP, IB, or dual enrollment)
- Date of enrollment and date of graduation
- List of all courses taken (arranged from the oldest to the most recent)
- Total number of credits
- Transcript sent with School Profile (on next slide)

Academic Achievement Record

							Sch	ool Addr	ess	5080 Cahaba	Valley Tra	ce Birmir	ngham, A	L 3524
DOE		Sex XXX					Sch	ool Code		010382	Pho	ne: 205	995-969	4
	ent or Gu							e Printed		9/25/2023			. 41	
				^~	V		_Date	o i iiiitou						
	ress		\sim	\\\\			-	d	2040					
Grd	ne Year	Course	S1	S2	Yr	CRD	Grd	duation [Course		S1	S2	Yr	CRD
0.0		ter School at Oak Mountain	0.	02		OND	11			Junior Thesis	A/ 96	A+/ 98	A/ 97	1.00
08		Algebra I (MS)	A/ 95	A/ 97	A/ 96	1.00	11			Medieval History	A/ 94	A/ 95	A/ 95	1.00
08	2019-20		A-/ 92	A/ 97	A/ 95	1.00	11			Medieval Literature	A/ 96	A/ 97	A/ 97	1.00
00	2019-20	Annual GPA: 0.0000	N-7 02	10 01	~ 33	1.00	11	2022-23			A/ 93	A-/ 92	A/ 93	1.00
		Annual GPA: 0.0000					11			Pre-Calculus	A-/ 90	B/ 85	B+/ 88	1.00
The	Moetmine	ter School at Oak Mountain					11			tion to Digital Design		5.00	P	0.25
ine	westillis	ter School at Oak mountain								be Illustrator				0.20
09	2020-21	Art	A+/ 99	A+/100	A+/100	0.25	11	2022-23	Music		A+/100	A+/100	A+/100	0.25
09	2020-21	Hon Humane Ltrs: American Hist	A/ 96	AJ 97	A/ 97	1.00	11	2022-23	Studio A	rt		A+/100	A+/100	0.50
09	2020-21	Hon Humane Ltrs: American Lit	A/ 97	A+/ 99	A+/ 98	1.00	11	2022-23	Systema	tic Theology		A+/ 98	A+/ 98	0.50
09	2020-21	Honors Biology	A/ 97	A/ 95	A/ 96	1.00			Annual	GPA: 4.8615				
09	2020-21	Honors Geometry	A-/ 90	A-/ 90	A-/ 90	1.00								
09	2020-21	Latin II	B+/ 89	A-/ 92	A-/ 91	1.00	The	Westmins	ter Sch	ool at Oak Mounta	in			
09	2020-21	Music	A+/100	A+/100	A+/100	0.25	12	2023-24	AP Statis	stics				0.00
09	2020-21	Rhetoric		A+/ 98	A+/ 98	0.50	12	2023-24	Art					0.00
09	2020-21	Theology I	A+/100		A+/100	0.50	12	2023-24	Christian	Ethics & Apologetics				0.00
		Annual GPA: 4.8308					12	2023-24	Honors A	Anatomy				0.00
							12			Modern European				0.00
Aub	urn Unive	rsity					12	2023-24	History Honors M Literature	Modern European				0.00
10	2021-22	HIST 1010 - World History I			В	1.00	12			Senior Thesis				0.00
		Annual GPA: 0.0000					12	2023-24	Music					0.00
							12	2023-24	Sculpting	with Clay			P	0.25
The	Westmins	ter School at Oak Mountain					12	2023-24	Studio A	rt				0.00
10	2021-22	Art	A+/100	A+/100	A+/100	0.25			Annual	GPA: 0.0000				
10	2021-22	Honors Algebra II	B/ 84	A-/ 91	B+/ 88	1.00								
10	2021-22	Honors Ancient History	A/ 93	AJ 97	A/ 95	1.00			Cum					
									GPA	:4.8200				
10		Honors Ancient Literature	A/ 94	A+/98	A/ 96	1.00								
10		Honors Chemistry	A/ 93	A-/90	A-/ 92	1.00								
10		Honors Latin III	A-/ 92	B+/ 87	A-/ 90 A+/100	1.00								
10	2021-22		A+/100	A+/100 A/ 95	A+/100 A/ 95	0.25								
10		New Testament	A+/ 99	W 93	A+/ 99	0.50								
10		Old Testament Rhetoric II	A+/ 99 A-/ 92	A/ 95	A+/99 A/94	0.50						2.00		
10	2021-22	Annual GPA : 4.7714	A-1 32	A 95	A 34	0.50				Official T	ransc	ript		
		Allinual GPA: 4.7714										-		
Aub	urn Unive	rsitv												
11		MUSI 2730 - Music Appreciation			Α	1.00								
		Annual GPA: 0.0000			(0.2)	1 2								
The	Westmins	ter School at Oak Mountain												
11	2022-23	Art	A+/100	A+/100	A+/100	0.25								
11	2022-23	Creeds, Confessions, Catechisms	A-/ 92		A-/ 92	0.50								

NUMBER OF CREDITS EARNED BY DEPARTMENT								
Classical Languages	Electives	English	History	Mathematics	Rhetoric	Science	Theology	Total
3.00	4.25	3.00	3.00	4.00	2.00	3.00	2.50	25.00

Grade Scale Conversion:

A = 90.00-100.00

B = 80.00-89.

C = 70.00-79.99

F = 0.00-69.99

Signature of School Official/Title/Date



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Director of Admissions & Registrar lkelly@westminsterknights.org

WESTMINSTER

SCHOOL AT OAK MOUNTAIN

School Profile

Established in 1998, Westminster School at Oak Mountain is a K-12 classical Christian school. We are committed to graduating young men and women who think with discernment and understanding, who reason persuasively and articulate precisely, and who interpret the world through the lens of Scripture. Our school is designed to develop well-rounded, renaissance students, who are scientists as well as linguists, athletes as well as poets.

CORE CHARACTERISTICS

CHRISTIAN Westminster exists to build Christ's kingdom by equipping students with wisdom, virtue, and eloquence.

CLASSICAL Westminster provides a rigorous, traditional liberal arts education. The core disciplines taught in the Upper School are classical languages, the Great Books, natural sciences, and the history of civilizations from earliest origins to the present. Courses in Humane Letters are taught as Socratic seminars. Formal logic and rhetoric are integrated into the curriculum, with rhetoric taught as a distinct course as well.

COMMUNITY Westminster is committed to a healthy community of faith and learning. All students in grades 7-12 are assigned to one of eight houses. Our House Program serves as the basis for student leadership. community-building, peer mentoring, competition, and community service.

GRAND TOUR Our Grand Tour provides an experiential culmination of thirteen years of study for our graduates. They travel for ten days visiting noteworthy historical sites relevant to their coursework. This immersive trip gives them a ground-level view of the foundations of the modern Western world.

AFFILIATIONS Westminster is a ministry of Oak Mountain Presbyterian Church, PCA, and is accredited by Cognia. The school holds membership in the Association of Christian Classical School (ACCS), Independent School Management (ISM), the National Association for College Admission Counseling (NACAC), the National Association of Secondary School Principals (NASSP), the Education Records Bureau (ERB), the Society for Classical Learning (SCL), the American Classical League (ACL), the National Junior Classical League (NJCL), the Educational Theatre Association (ETA), and the Alabama High School Athletic Association (AHSAA).

ORGANIZATIONS Westminster's extracurricular activities are designed to enrich study, learning, and culture. Current clubs include theater, choral ensemble, National Honor Society, HOSA, robotics, yearbook, video production, chess, Spanish, cultures, and art.

ATHLETICS Westminster offers a variety of co-curricular sports to strengthen students spiritually and athletically. These include volleyball, cross-country, basketball, swim & dive, indoor track & field, outdoor track & field, soccer, golf, tennis and baseball. Most of these programs compete in the AHSAA 2A classification, although several have moved higher based on their success under the AHSAA reclassification rule.

STUDENTS AND SCHOOL

- Founded in 1998
- · First graduating class in 2006
- 38 students in the class of 2024
- 172 students in grades 9-12
- 596 students total

Total Required Credits:

100% college matriculation rate in 2023

GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS

· English/Literature History Mathematics Science · Foreign Language · Rhetoric/Thesis · Fine Arts Theology

27.5

FACULTY

- · 24 teaching faculty
- · 17 with advanced degrees
- 11:1 students/teacher ratio

STANDARDIZED TEST RESULTS CLASS OF 2023

ACT (Total Tested: 36)

- · Composite ACT 30 English 31 Math 28 Reading 31
- Science Average for ACT based on student scores.

GRADING AND TRANSCRIPTS

- · 4-point grading scale for grade level courses
- 5-point grading scale for honors courses
- · Additional weighted scale based on quality points reflective of numeric scores:

97-100	A+	4.4
93-96	A	4.2
90-92	A-	4.0
87-89	B+	3.4
83-86	В	3.2
80-82	B-	3.0
77-79	C+	2.4
73-76	C	2.2
70-72	C-	2.0
69 and below	F	0.0

· 25 honors courses offered, four of those are AP (Note: We do not provide class rank.)

Wisdom, Virtue, and Eloquence

CURRICULUM OVERVIEW

MATH	SCIENCE	HISTORY	LITERATURE	LANGUAGE	RHETORIC	THEOLOGY
Algebra I Geometry Algebra II Geometry (H) Algebra II (H) Pre-calculus (H) Algebra III	Biology (H) Chemistry (H) Physics Physics (H) Anatomy (H)	American (H) Ancient (H) Medieval (H) Modern European (H)	American (H) Ancient (H) Medieval (H) Modern European (H)	Latin I Latin II Latin III (H) AP Latin IV Spanish I Spanish II Spanish III (H)	Rhetoric I Rhetoric II Junior Thesis (H) Senior Thesis (H)	Biblical Interpretation Covenant Theology Old Testament New Testament Creeds, Confessions.
AP Statistics AP Calculus AB AP Calculus BC				Greek I (H) Greek II (H)		Catechisms Systematic Theology Christian Ethics & Apologetics

CLASSICAL DISTINCTIVES

HUMANITIES Humanities courses at Westminster cover texts ranging from Homer's Odyssey to Shakespeare's Hamlet. Classes emphasize a conversational methodology, in which the primary object is not victory over an opponent, but the discovery of truth. At Westminster we believe that the art of discussion, like reading or writing, is a skill that must be honed and refined.

RHETORIC Rhetoric is a foundational subject reinforced throughout students' Upper School experience. Because the value of these skills goes beyond academic pursuits, students practice and apply it to other forms of communication. Their studies culminate in a thesis experience that is not merely an exercise but a capstone of academic progress, spiritual and moral development, life skills, and natural aptitudes and interests.

FINE ARTS Fine Arts courses include visual art, music, and theater and cover artistic movements from ancient to modern as they relate to the Humanities curriculum. Students realize the integration of all art forms in the development of mankind and culture throughout the curriculum.

COLLEGE ACCEPTANCES

Auburn University	Lee University	Texas Christian University
Baylor University	Lehigh University	Troy University
Belmont University	LeTourneau University	United States Air Force Academy
Berry College	Liberty University	United States Military Academy (West Point)
Birmingham Southern College	Lipscomb University	University of Alabama
Butler University	Louisiana Scholars College (NSU)	University of Alabama at Birmingham
California Institute of the Arts	Louisiana State University	University of Alabama at Huntsville
Clemson University	Marquette University	University of Arkansas
College of William and Mary	Mercer University	University of Cincinnati
Covenant College	Miami University: Oxford	University of Dallas
Dartmouth College	Milsaps College	University of Kentucky
Emerson College	Mississippi College	University of Mississippi
Florida State University	Mississippi State University	University of Montevallo
Furman University	Missouri State University	University of North Alabama
Georgian Institute of Technology	Pepperdine University	University of South Alabama
George Washington University	Rhodes College	University of South Carolina
Gordon College	Rose-Hulman Institute of Technology	University of Tennessee
Grove City College	Samford University	Vanderbilt University
Hendrix College	Southern Methodist University	Washington & Lee University
Huntingdon College	Swanee: University of the South	Westmont College
Jefferson State Community College	Taylor University	Wheaton College
The King's College (NYC)	Texas A&M University	Wofford College

AWARDS & SCHOLARSHIPS

Members of the Class of 2023 were awarded \$3.563.351 in academic athletic, and special achievement scholarships and awards. These thirtysix graduates accepted packages totaling \$1,785,547.

Since 2009 Westminster has had 14 students recognized as National Merit Scholars, 17 as Semifinalists, and 9 as Commended Scholars through the National Merit Scholarship Program.

H = Honors / AP = Advanced placement

Calculate Unweighted GPA

- 1. Multiply the point value of the letter grade (A=4, B=3, C=2, D=1) by the number of credit hours (credits, units). Total the quality points for all terms.
- 2. Total the credit hours for all terms.
- 3. Divide the total quality points for all terms by the total credit hours for all terms.





How to Plan Course Track

- If Engineering College Major take the highest level of math and science classes including Honors Physics and AP Calculus AB or BC. Include electives such as Computer Science, C# Programming, or Intro to Engineering
- If Pre-Medicine/Nursing College Major take the highest level of math and science classes including AP Statistics or Calculus AB, Biology, Chemistry, Anatomy, Physics. Electives could include Psychology, Medical Terminology, Spanish, Biochemistry
- If Business College Major take the highest level of history, English, and math like AP Calculus AB or Statistics. Electives such as Business Math, Economics, US Government, Macro or Microeconomics
- If highly selective college, consider taking 4 years of the same language.

