



Standardized Testing for College Admission

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US Admission Testing

- Why does it matter?
- US admissions and testing
- When are the tests administered
 - PSAT 8/9 - March 8
 - PSAT 10 - March 27
 - PSAT/NMSQT - administered in the fall (mid- to late-October)
 - SAT - March 13
 - ACT - Not offered at Rochambeau only national testing dates
 - Advanced Placement - May 6-17



Benefits of Standardized Testing

- It can be great practice if the student doesn't have experience with standardized testing.
- By taking a PSAT exam, the student will be more prepared for the SAT taken in 11th and 12th grades.
- Scoring highly on the SAT exam can strengthen a college application, giving universities another example of the student's academic excellence.



PSAT 8/9 & PSAT 10

- Practice/low pressure environment
- Not reported to universities, scores only seen by the college counseling dept and students/families



PSAT/NMSQT

- Given in 11th grade (premiere)
- Practice, but most similar to the SAT
- National Merit Scholars Program
 - High-scoring students will be in consideration for invitation to apply
 - Very very selective!
 - In 2022, Rochambeau had three “commended students” (top 32,000 in the country). In 2023, Rochambeau had two commended students and one finalist (top 16,000 in the country).



SAT

- When to take it
 - SAT School Day - advantages of taking it in school
 - Offered several times per year on Saturdays by the College Board
- How many times should a student take the exam?
- Average score for class of 2023: 1255
- Middle 50% 1150-1360
- Resources for studying
 - Khan Academy - www.khanacademy.org



ACT

- What is it?
- Why Consider it?
- When to take it?
 - Offered several times per year on Saturdays by ACT
 - The ACT can be taken as early as junior year and as late as the fall of senior year
- How many times should a student take the exam?
- Resources for studying
 - Khan Academy - www.khanacademy.org



Test-Optional Admission

- What does this mean for different universities?
- Does submitting or not submitting scores make a difference in admission chances?
- Universities who have returned to requiring test scores:
 - Georgetown University, University of Tennessee, Massachusetts Institute of Technology
- Who should send scores? It depends on the program!
 - Computer science, engineering, health profession programs (nursing, pre-med, etc.)



Advanced Placement Exams

- What are AP exams?
- When are they given?
 - Can only be taken at Rochambeau
- Which exams are given?
 - Yearly survey
- Not all exams can be taken because we don't have AP classes and these exams require classes - seminar, art, etc.
- Who should take them?
 - School policy - 9th and 10th can only take foreign language exams (French, Spanish, German). 11th and 12th are allowed to take any exams offered



Transfer Credit

- AP exam credit
 - Schools are taking credit less and less over the years
 - Usually can only get credit for non-major classes
 - This doesn't mean fewer classes taken overall, would likely be placed in an upper level subject
- AP policies are equivalent to IB transfer credit policy
 - IB students are welcome to take AP exams, but in many cases it's not necessary
- Not all universities accept French Baccalaureate credit



English Language Proficiency Exams

- Rochambeau does not offer TOEFL/IELTS exams on campus
- Locations of testing
 - TOEFL - <https://www.ets.org/toefl.html>
 - IELTS - <https://ielts.org/>
- Check what universities will take which exams - SAT English section, Duolingo (the easiest option). TOEFL and IELTS are universally accepted, so don't take multiple tests if you can avoid it



Digital Testing

- All SAT Suite of Assessments are now digital
 - Benefits of digital assessments
- Approved devices - iPad, laptop, Chromebook
- If your student doesn't have an approved device, they must let me know two weeks before the test date
- Some AP exams are still done paper/pencil - Nine of the exams will be digital this year (some offer the option of paper vs. digital)
 - Some Cambridge/Oxford exams



Cambridge and Oxford Assessments

- Exams required for University of Oxford and University of Cambridge
- Administered every October
- Very few outside testing centers
- Links for more information
 - University of Cambridge - <https://support.admissionstesting.org/hc/en-gb>
 - University of Oxford - <https://www.ox.ac.uk/admissions/undergraduate/applying-to-oxford/guide/admissions-tests>



Testing Accommodations

- How to apply
 - Reach out to the testing coordinator at the beginning of the year to discuss submitting your request. It can take up to 7 weeks to be processed.
- Who decides?
 - Officials at the College Board will review documentation from the medical provider with their recommendations, as well as the student's PAP. They will then decide to approve or deny the accommodations request.
- Can I appeal the decision?
 - Yes, however there is no guarantee that the decision will change - this is not something that Rochambeau has control over.



Registration Deadlines

- PSAT 8/9 - January 26
- PSAT 10 - February 19 (registration information will be sent early next week)
- SAT - February 1
- AP Exams - Late registration is open until March 1
- Register at www.apsusa.com/roch/
- Register for other SAT dates:
<https://satsuite.collegeboard.org/digital/digital-testing/dates-deadlines>
- Register for the ACT:
<https://www.act.org/content/act/en/products-and-services/the-act/registration.html>



Thank you!

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