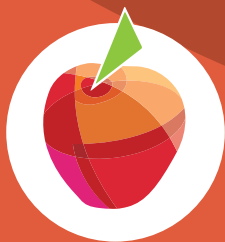
A close-up photograph of a student's hands and arms. The student is wearing a blue button-down shirt and a black wristband. They are holding a wooden pencil and writing on a test form that has multiple-choice questions with bubbles. The background is slightly blurred, showing other students in a classroom setting.

Applerouth's **JUNIOR JUMPSTART** to College Admissions Testing

FALL 2020



www.applerouth.com | info@applerouth.com | 866-789-PREP (7737)



How to Use This Guide

Welcome to junior year! You've got a big year ahead: advanced classes, extracurriculars, and SAT/ACT prep. Applerouth is here to help with your Junior Jumpstart: a road map to college admissions testing success.

Follow our steps to pick the right test, build your prep plan, and hit your goals.

Step 1: Learn about the SAT + ACT | pages 1-4

- ➔ Check out our handy SAT vs. ACT infographic.
- ➔ It summarizes all the key differences between the tests and will have you up to speed in minutes.

Step 2: Figure out which test is best for you | pages 5-8

- ➔ It's a good idea to pick one test and focus on it: don't split your time!
- ➔ The best way to choose a test is by taking full-length, official practice tests of both the SAT and ACT and comparing your scores.
- ➔ Understand your 10th or 11th grade PSAT scores to enhance your planning.

Step 3: Make a Plan | pages 9-16

- ➔ Now that you've chosen your test, build a plan to reach your score goals.
- ➔ Get the facts on test-optional admissions and how it affects your plan
- ➔ Choose test dates and a prep timeline that make sense for you.

Step 4: Prep with Applerouth | page 17

- ➔ Your Applerouth tutor will help you make the most of your plan.
- ➔ Increase your score with targeted strategies designed just for you and your goals.

Contact us at 866-789-7737 to get personalized advice and a custom testing plan.

Use the color bar at the bottom of each page to follow the steps.

Step 1
Pages 1 - 4

Step 2
Pages 5 - 8

Step 3
Pages 9 - 16

Step 4
Page 17



THE SAT VS THE ACT

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

KEY Differences

- Lots of Geometry
- Faster Paced
- Tough Science Section



Overall Time

TIMING & SCORING

Overall Time



Reading

65m

1-36

35m

Reading

Writing

35m

1-36

45m

English

Math
(No Calculator)

25m

1-36

60m

Math

Math
(Calculator)

55m

1-36

35m

Science

Total Points

400 - 1600

1 - 36

Total Points

Reading

Writing

Math

Time per Question



Reading

English

Math

Time per Question



Step 1: Learn about the SAT + ACT

MATH

Number of Questions

SAT
58

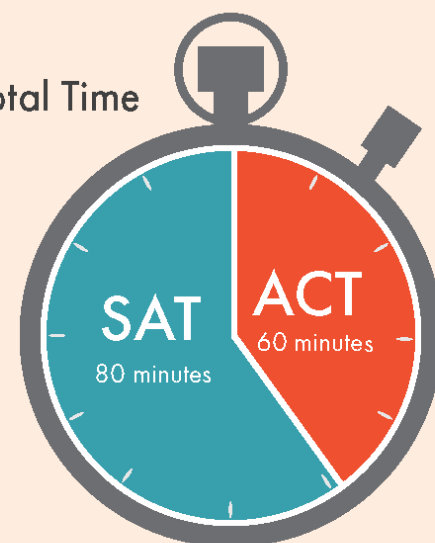
ACT
60

Number of Sections

2
SAT

1
ACT

Total Time



Time Per Question



Formulas

The **SAT** provides a reference table of common formulas.

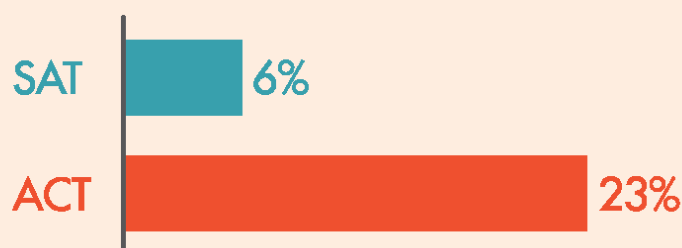
The **ACT** does not provide formulas for reference.



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

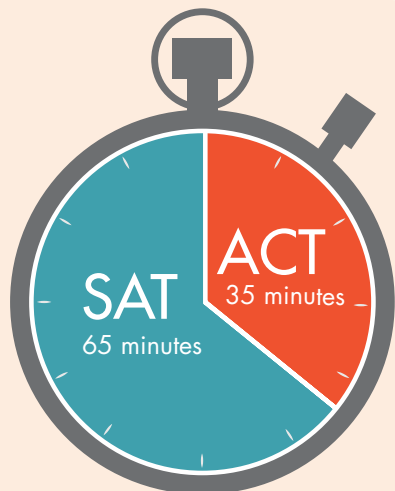
Geometry Focus

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.



Step 1: Learn about the SAT + ACT

READING



Total Time

Time Per Question

ACT
SAT

53s

75s

Number of Questions

SAT
52

ACT
40

Vocabulary

What percent of questions test vocabulary?

ACT
SAT

8%

17%

Do the Reading sections have
Graphs and Charts?



Yes, relating to
two passages



No, only on the
Science section

Passage Complexity

SAT

ACT

25

Avg. words per
sentence

22

39

Peak words per
sentence

26

13.5

Avg Grade Level*

11.5

11-16

Grade Level
Fluctuation

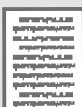
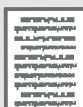
9-14

*Flesch-Kincaid readability assessment

Number of Passages

SAT

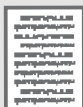
5



comparison

ACT

4



comparison

Topics Covered

- Literature
- Science (2)
- History/Soc. Studies (2)
- Prose/Fiction
- Humanities
- Social Science
- Natural Science

Step 1: Learn about
the SAT + ACT

WRITING/ENGLISH

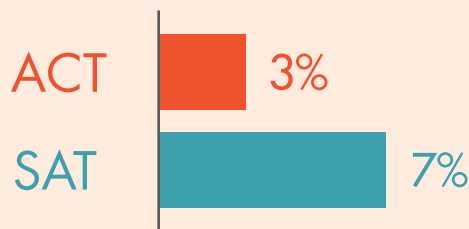
Number of Questions

SAT
44

ACT
75

Vocabulary

What percent of questions test vocabulary?



Total Time

Time Per Question



Do the Reading sections have Graphs and Charts?

SAT



Yes, relating to
two passages

ACT



No, only on the
Science section

GRAMMAR VS. RHETORICAL SKILLS

SAT

45%

55%*

ACT

51%

49%*

*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

SAT

13

ACT

10

Average grade level*

*Flesch-Kincaid readability assessment

Step 1: Learn about
the SAT + ACT



Choosing a Test

Now that you've learned about both tests, it's time to choose the test that's right for you. Neither the SAT nor the ACT is easier than the other, but the two tests focus on slightly different skills and have different timing and question styles. Many students have a preference for the SAT or the ACT, and **you can decide which test is best for you by following a few easy steps.**

- ➔ Take full-length, official practice tests of both the SAT and ACT and compare your scores. This is the best way to choose a test. You may score significantly higher on one test than the other, which makes the decision easy. Even if you don't see a clear score difference between the two, you'll still get a clear sense of what each test *feels* like.
- ➔ Review your PSAT scores - either from 10th or 11th grade - for a greater understanding of the SAT's timing and content. Note that PSAT scores aren't *quite* as useful in determining test type, since the SAT is longer and more challenging than the PSAT. Also, your 10th-grade PSAT score won't be as accurate, since you've had a lot of academic growth since then.

Over the next few pages, you'll find information on how to interpret your PSAT scores, as well as a concordance table comparing SAT and ACT scores.

Sign up for free online practice tests at www.applerouth.com/calendar or contact us at info@applerouth.com for help.

"I can't thank my daughter's tutor enough!
My daughter has improved so much not only in her scores
but also in her confidence."

— New York Tri-State Area parent

Step 2: Figure out which
test is best for you



Understanding Your PSAT/NMSQT Score Report

1 Your Total Score

The PSAT and SAT are now on a common scale, so you can compare your scores directly. Keep in mind, the PSAT maxes out at 1520 and the SAT is out of 1600.

2

Your Nationally Representative Sample Percentiles

These percentiles compare you with the typical high school student—**not** necessarily the students who took the same test administration as you.

3

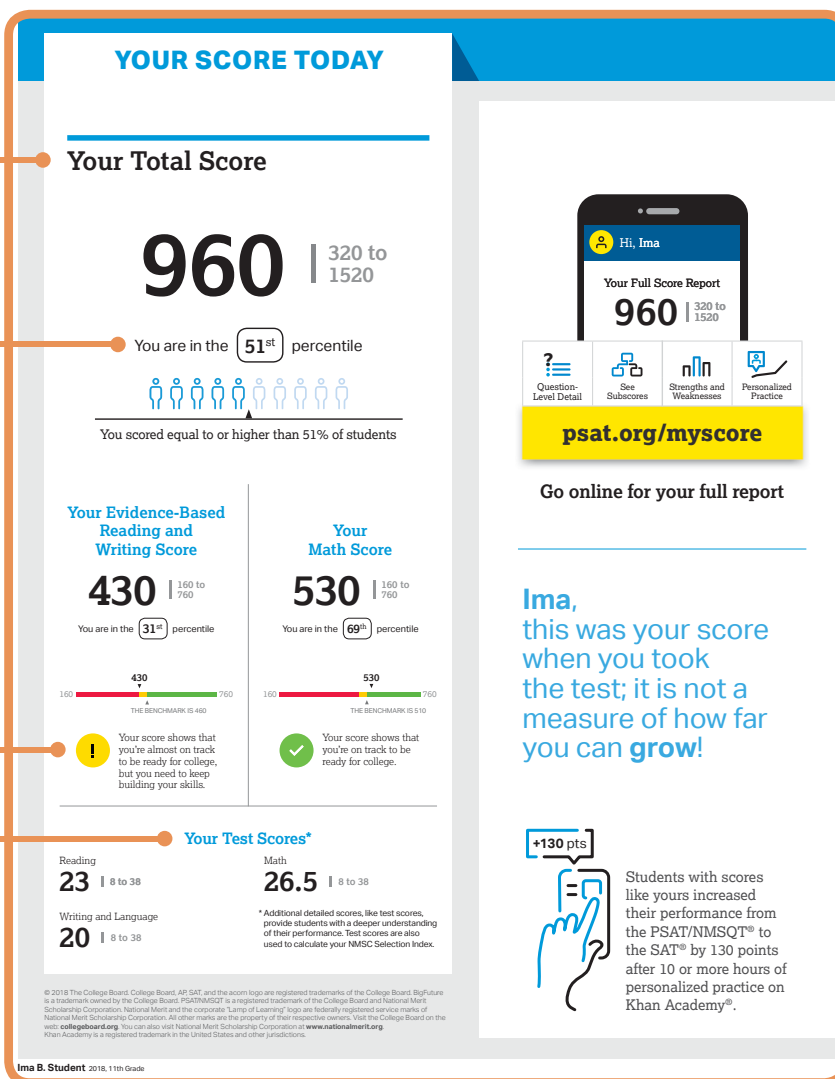
The College and Career Readiness Benchmark

These benchmarks also compare you with the typical high school student. Competitive schools may have higher benchmarks.

4

Your Test Scores

These scores are for the different sections of the test: Reading, Writing and Language, and Math. To get your total Evidence Based Reading and Writing Score, add your Reading Test Score and Writing Test Score, then multiply by 10. To get your Math Score, multiply your Math Test Score by 20.



Step 2: Figure out which test is best for you

Here's what else is waiting for you online:

1

A link to free personalized practice on Khan Academy

Share your scores with Khan Academy to get your personalized practice.

2

A list of the challenging courses you're ready for

Congrats! Your scores show you're ready to succeed in AP® courses.

3

Your customized starter college list

Check out the tools at BigFuture™ to kick-start your college plans.

SAT

Don't forget!

Register to take the SAT ahead of college application deadlines in spring of junior year and fall of senior year.

NATIONAL MERIT SCHOLARSHIP CORPORATION**Your NMSC Selection Index****139**

NMSC uses a Selection Index score based on PSAT/NMSQT scores as an initial screen of students who enter its scholarship programs. The Selection Index score is double the sum of your Reading, Writing and Language, and Math Test scores.

Eligibility Information

You meet entry requirements for the 2020 National Merit Scholarship Program and your Selection Index score will be considered among 1.6 million program entrants.

If your Selection Index places you among the 50,000 high scorers who qualify for National Merit Scholarship Program recognition, you will be notified next September when qualifying Selection Index scores will be made available.

Entry Requirements

Information you provided on your answer sheet:

High school student: **YES**

Year to complete high school and enroll full time in college: **2020**

Total years to be spent in grades 9–12: **4**

National Merit Scholarship Corporation

National Merit Scholarship Corporation (NMSC) conducts the National Merit® Scholarship Program, an academic competition for recognition and college scholarships.

To designate students who qualify for recognition in its 2020 competition, NMSC will consider the 2018 PSAT/NMSQT® Selection Index scores of some 1.6 million test takers (usually high school juniors) who meet program entry requirements. For more information, please visit: www.nationalmerit.org

If any of your responses to NMSC's "Entry Requirements" questions are inaccurate or there has been a change in plans that may affect program entry, write immediately to:

National Merit Scholarship Corporation
Attn: Scholarship Administration
1560 Sherman Avenue, Suite 200
Evanston, IL 60201-4897

Include your name and home address along with your high school name, address, and six-digit code number.

Ima B. Student 2018, 11th Grade

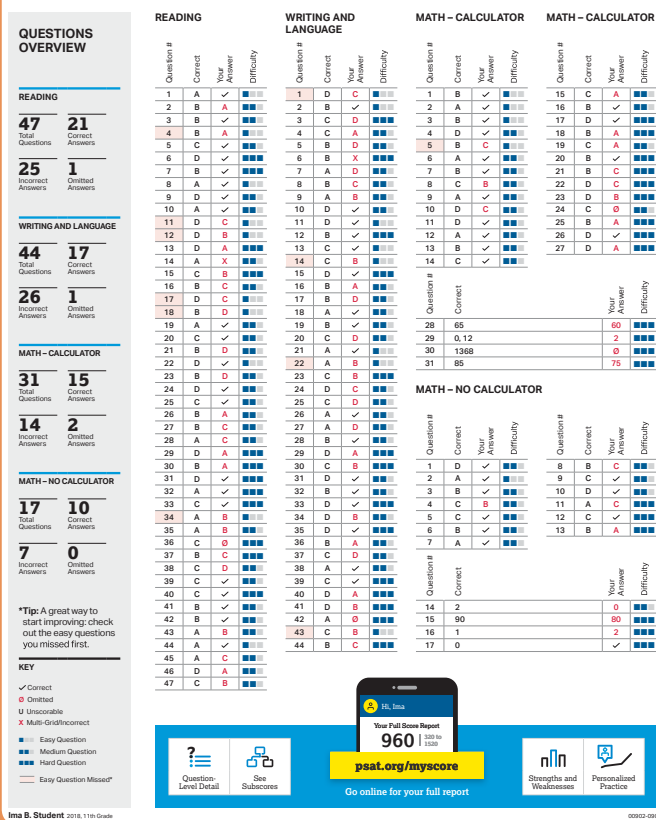


applerouth

5

National Merit Scholarship Corporation

As a junior, your PSAT score is considered for the National Merit Scholarship Program by the NMSC (National Merit Scholarship Committee). The NMSC Selection Index ranges from 48 to 228 and about 50,000 students each year earn scores high enough to qualify for the scholarship. For entry requirements and information on the steps in the competition, see the 2020 PSAT/NMSQT Student Guide or visit www.nationalmerit.org.

Your Question-Level Feedback

6

Your Question-Level Feedback

Here you can see which specific questions you got right and wrong, as well as their difficulty level. You can use this feedback to identify trends related to timing, fatigue, careless errors, and issues with grid-in questions.

Get your full score report at
psat.org/myscore

Sample Score Report from <https://collegereadiness.collegeboard.org/pdf/sample-psat-nmsqt-score-report.pdf>

Step 2: Figure out which test is best for you



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www.applerouth.com

Understanding Your PSAT/NMSQT Score Report

7



SAT/ACT Concordance Table

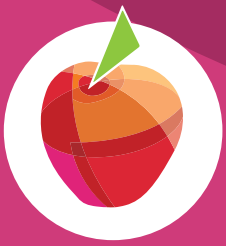
Colleges do not prefer the SAT over the ACT or vice versa. Here is a concordance table of comparable SAT and ACT scores. The SAT has a greater score range (400-1600), so multiple SAT scores often correspond to a single ACT score.

SAT	ACT
Total Score	Composite Score
1570-1600	36
1530-1560	35
1490-1520	34
1450-1480	33
1420-1440	32
1390-1410	31
1360-1380	30
1330-1350	29
1300-1320	28
1260-1290	27
1230-1250	26
1200-1220	25
1160-1190	24
1130-1150	23
1100-1120	22
1060-1090	21
1030-1050	20
990-1020	19
960-980	18
920-950	17
880-910	16
830-870	15
780-820	14
730-770	13
690-720	12
650-680	11

Data from the College Board and ACT, Inc.'s *Guide to the 2018 ACT/SAT Concordance* released June 2018.

Already took practice tests and need help comparing them?
Contact an Applerouth Program Advisor at 866-789-7737 for personalized advice.

Step 2: Figure out which
test is best for you



2020-2021 SAT Test Date Calendar

SAT DATES | 2020-2021

Test Date	Registration Deadline	Late Registration Deadline**	Scores Back***
INT August 29, 2020	Jul 31	Aug 18	Sept 21
INT September 26, 2020*	Aug 26	Sept 15	Oct 9
INT October 3, 2020	Sept 4	Sept 22	Oct 16
INT November 7, 2020	Oct 7	Oct 27	Nov 20
INT December 5, 2020	Nov 5	Nov 24	Dec 18
INT March 13, 2021*	Feb 12	Mar 2	Mar 26
INT May 8, 2021	Apr 8	Apr 27	May 21
June 5, 2021	May 6	May 26	Jul 14

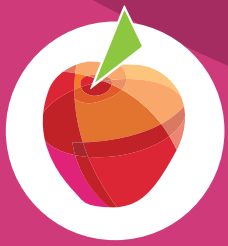
INT International Test Date

* SAT Subject Tests are not available on this date.

**Late registration deadlines listed are for registrations made online or via phone. For mail-in registrations, the late registration deadline is typically a week before the phone or online deadline.

***Scores Back dates are for the multiple-choice sections of the test. If you take the SAT with Essay, your multiple choice scores will be ready on that date, but your essay score will be released the following week.

Step 3: Make a Plan



2020-2021 ACT Test Date Calendar

ACT DATES | 2020-2021

Test Date	Registration Deadline	Late Registration Deadline*	Scores Back**
INT September 12, 2020	Aug 28	No late fees	Sept 27
September 13, 2020	Aug 28	No late fees	Sept 26
September 19, 2020	Aug 28	No late fees	Oct 3
INT October 10, 2020	Sept 17	Sept 25	Oct 25
October 17, 2020	Sept 17	Sept 25	Oct 31
October 24, 2020	Sept 17	Sept 25	Nov 7
October 25, 2020	Sept 17	Sept 25	Nov 8
INT December 12, 2020	Nov 6	Nov 20	Dec 26
INT February 6, 2021	Jan 8	Jan 15	Feb 20
INT April 17, 2021	Mar 12	Mar 26	May 1
INT June 12, 2021	May 7	May 21	Jun 26
INT July 17, 2021*	Jun 18	Jun 25	Jul 31

INT International Test Date

*No test centers are scheduled in New York for this test date.

**Anticipated score back date. ACT scores are typically available within two weeks after the test date.

Step 3: Make a Plan

Understanding Test-Optional Admissions

With all the news this year about colleges going test-optional, you're probably wondering, "Do I really need to take the SAT or ACT?" For many of our students, the short answer is, **yes - taking the test is a good idea**. But you need a thoughtful plan to guide your decision. With an individualized plan, you can proceed with confidence.

What's going on with test-optional admissions right now?

Test-optional policies are not new. Many colleges were test-optional before COVID, but test-optional announcements accelerated rapidly once the pandemic caused massive test cancellations in spring 2020.

Many colleges, like Cornell and Tulane, have made clear that their new policies are a temporary response to COVID. Some colleges, like the University of California System and the University of Oregon were already considering adopting test-optional admissions when the pandemic took hold this spring. Still others, like Tufts and Elon, are treating their new test-optional policies as a multi-year "pilot" and will reevaluate whether to keep the policy permanently.

What does test optional *really* mean?

With test-optional policies on the rise, **informed college applicants need to understand what test-optional is, and what it isn't**. A test-optional policy does not mean that ACT and SAT scores are not factored in as part of the admissions decision, only that they are not a prerequisite for submitting an application. In other words: **test-optional does not mean test-blind**. Test-blind schools (of which there are very few) do not accept or consider standardized test scores at all.

Many colleges that have chosen to become test-optional have done so in the hopes of evening the playing field for all applicants. It provides an opportunity for students to customize their application process, while ensuring that testing does not systematically deny students a shot at admission, whether due to COVID, access to educational resources, a learning difference, a mental health concern, or any other life circumstance that may make it difficult, if not impossible, to take the tests and get scores that show their best abilities.

Test-optional schools create a new lane for students who struggle with standardized testing, but these schools often still value strong testers who submit scores.

Continued on the next page.

What does test optional really mean? *continued*

At selective test-optional schools, most students still submit test scores. According to a study of 28 test-optional schools conducted for the National Association of College Admissions Counselors, over 75% of students choose to submit test scores.¹

If you choose not to submit scores, the admissions decision will be based on other aspects of your application - high school records (GPA, course rigor, an extracurricular portfolio) and an essay or writing sample. Ginger Fay - Applerouth's Director of IEC Engagement, and former Duke admissions officer explains that holistic admissions is about the big picture, so things that enhance your application are worth including, even if not required:

"You want to consider how well your whole application speaks to your preparation for college. In truth, many aspects of your application are "optional" - you don't have to take challenging classes or earn top grades, you don't have to play sports or lead organizations, but if you've done these things, you'd certainly want to include them."

Fay notes that **the decision about test scores boils down to whether they are a good reflection of your potential to succeed in college.** "If they are, you will want to include them. And if they aren't, you will opt not to submit them when they are not required."

Should I take the SAT or ACT?

Now that you've got the big picture and a clear understanding of how test-optional policies work, you have to **figure out what's best for you.**

Here are some factors to consider as you craft your personal plan:

How would I do on the SAT or ACT?

Taking full-length practice SAT and ACT exams is a great way to find out. To ensure reliable results, be sure that your practice tests are full-length, official tests (written and released by the College Board and ACT, Inc.), and taken under timed conditions that mimic a real test day.

Continued on the next page.

Want reliable practice scores?

Sign up for a free, online practice test with Applerouth at applerouth.com/calendar and you'll get a detailed score report with personalized insights to help you make an optimal plan.

¹<https://www.nacacnet.org/globalassets/documents/publications/research/defining-access-report-2018.pdf>

Should I take the SAT or ACT? *continued*

What are the testing policies at the colleges on my list?

Take some time to look at current testing policies and score ranges at schools you're interested in. Testing information can typically be found on each college's admissions website and will vary from school to school. As a member of the class of 2022, you'll want to **pay special attention to time frames** for any current policies - many of the newly-adopted test-optional policies are only for students applying during the 2020-21 admissions cycle - *i.e.*, current seniors.

Do I need test scores to qualify for scholarships?

While you're researching colleges and testing policies, you should also look at merit scholarship opportunities. Many colleges offer merit scholarships to students who meet certain academic criteria and, **often, SAT or ACT scores are required to qualify, even at test-optional schools.**

What is my testing timeline?

Your timeline will depend on a variety of factors, including admissions deadlines at your colleges of interest, and commitments you have throughout the year. Ideally, you'll map out a timeline that comfortably allows for three test dates and 10 to 12 weeks of preparation before the first official test. This year, you'll need to consider the possibility of test date delays or limited testing seats (due to COVID and social distancing). For more detail and sample plans, see page 16.

If you start considering the above factors now, early in your junior year, you'll be able to make a solid plan, adapt as needed, and get your personal best scores in time for application season.

"My son was accepted into his dream school, and I'm confident that would never have happened if it weren't for his tutor. I gladly recommend Applerouth to anyone who asks!"

— Seattle Metropolitan Area parent

SAT + ACT Testing Timelines

When should I take the SAT or ACT?

Many students begin preparing for the SAT or ACT during their junior year, but some students start as early as the summer after sophomore year and others wait until senior year to begin (although that's cutting it close!). A key class is Algebra 2: we recommend students wait until after they take at least a semester of Algebra 2 to begin prep, since the math content tested on both the SAT and ACT goes through Algebra 2.

Will COVID-19 affect my testing plan?

Here's what juniors need to know about COVID's impact on testing:

- The SAT and ACT had to cancel their national test date this spring and, as a result, they are now struggling to accommodate the huge demand for test seats in fall 2020.
- The College Board added an additional national test date in August, and ACT added multiple options in September and October.
- In spite of these added dates, we still expect demand for seats to exceed supply, especially if test centers have to close this fall due to the ongoing pandemic.
- With all this in mind, current juniors may find it hard to secure a testing seat this fall. Further test date changes or cancellations might also affect your testing timeline, so keep that in mind!

In general, we recommend that you go ahead and register as early as possible for the test dates that work for you. Once you have testing spots secured, you can make a plan and adapt the plan as needed if a test date is cancelled.

Making a Plan

Here at Applerouth, we always recommend that students plan to take the SAT or ACT three times. You might not need all three times - you might make your score goals the first or second time you take the test! - but it's important to have three in reserve.

Having three planned test dates prevents any one test day from being a make-or-break situation, which reduces testing anxiety. It also helps you hedge against any test date cancellations. Finally, lots of schools superscore the SAT or ACT, which means that multiple test sittings can only help you.

Continued on the next page.

Making a Plan *continued*

Your score improvement will depend on how much time and energy you put into prepping. If you're hoping for significant gains on the SAT or ACT, you can expect to spend between 50 and 70 hours preparing. That includes:

- Time spent in tutoring sessions or group classes
- Completing homework
- Taking practice tests

Generally speaking, we recommend you complete your prep hours in the 10-12 weeks before your first test date, and then brush up before subsequent test dates.

As you map things out, you'll want to keep application deadlines in mind. They vary from school to school but, in general, early admissions deadlines tend to be in early November, which means you'll need to complete your final test by October of your senior year. Regular decision deadlines tend to be in January, allowing for testing through December of your senior year. For exact deadlines, check the admissions websites of the colleges on your list.

Putting Your Plan Into Action

With the above guidelines and COVID caveats in mind, here's a handy reference tool that will help you put an effective testing plan into action over the next year.

Test Prep Planning Checklist for Juniors

- Start prep after at least 1 semester of Algebra 2
- Allow for 2 to 3 test dates by the end of fall semester senior year (October if you plan to apply for early admission)
- Prep for 10 to 12 weeks before your first test
- Brush up before subsequent tests

Continued on the next page.

Putting Your Plan Into Action *continued*

Sample Testing Plans for Juniors in 2020-2021

These sample plans are meant to help illustrate the overall flow of prep and testing. The exact test dates and timing of each step are unique to each student and will depend heavily on test date availability during the pandemic.

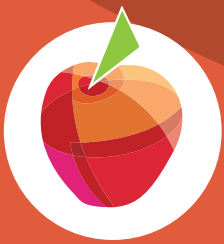
SAMPLE TESTING PLAN		2020 Summer/Fall
<i>Brianna completed Algebra 2 as a sophomore and would like to complete testing before senior year if possible.</i>		
Prep window	Summer + Fall 2020	
Target window for test #1	August - December 2020	
Target window for subsequent tests	January - June 2021	

SAMPLE TESTING PLAN		2021 Winter/Spring
<i>Michael is currently taking Algebra 2 and would like to start test prep after one semester in the class.</i>		
Prep window	Winter + Spring 2021	
Target window for test #1	March - June 2021	
Target window for subsequent tests	July - October 2021	

Remember, no two students' prep plans are exactly alike and the name of the game in 2020-21 is flexibility! As a Junior, you still have time to make adjustments along the way, and can use the summer between junior and senior year, as needed, too. You're planning now, which means you're already on the right track.

Need help figuring out your testing plan?

Contact one of our expert Program Advisors at 866-789-7737 to get personalized advice.



About Applerouth



A high SAT or ACT score can **open doors to the most competitive colleges** and pave the way to merit-based scholarships.



With tutoring, students will get one-on-one, personalized support and a customized prep plan based on their strengths, needs, and schedule that is **guaranteed* to raise** their scores.

* Higher Score Guarantee: Conditions and restrictions apply, for complete guarantee eligibility requirements visit applerouth.com/policies/#guarantee



With Applerouth, you get the smartest approach to tutoring. We use the **latest research in cognition, memory and motivation** to help students achieve a higher level of success.

Why Applerouth?

Student Focused Approach

The tests are standardized, our approach is anything but. We provide:

- Specialized advice to determine the best test prep plan for you
- Custom tutor matching
- One-on-one, personalized tutoring sessions
- Ongoing parent communication
- Test-like practice

Better Results

Applerouth students earn higher tests scores— guaranteed.* Students across the nation achieve superior results, improve their grades, and boost their confidence

Flexible Locations and Online Tutoring

Wherever you are, our tutors are ready to help. We've helped students across the U.S. and internationally.



**5
pts**

Average ACT Increase

Applerouth tutors help students with each section of the ACT to bring their composite score up an average of 5 points.



**130
pts**

Average SAT Increase

Applerouth students taking the SAT see an average increase of 130 points.



\$28m

\$28.8 million

Total accepted scholarship money by Applerouth students in the class of 2020.



49/50

Our students were accepted to 49 of the top U.S. colleges*

*based on US News and World Report Rankings of National Universities 2020.

All increase statistics are based on students completing at least 20 hours of private tutoring and 80% of their assigned homework.

Step 4:
Prep with Applerouth

Applerouth Tutoring Services

www.applerouth.com
info@applerouth.com
866-789-PREP (7737)

Atlanta Metropolitan Area

404-728-0661

Chicago Metropolitan Area

847-239-5247

Houston Metropolitan Area

281-946-7128

New York Tri-State Area

212-731-4676

Seattle Metropolitan Area

206-456-6864

Washington D.C. Metropolitan Area

202-558-5644

Online & International

866-789-7737

"My son's tutor connects with him unlike anyone ever has. I am beyond confident in Applerouth's program, and I love the specialized attention that my son receives."

— Atlanta Metropolitan Area parent

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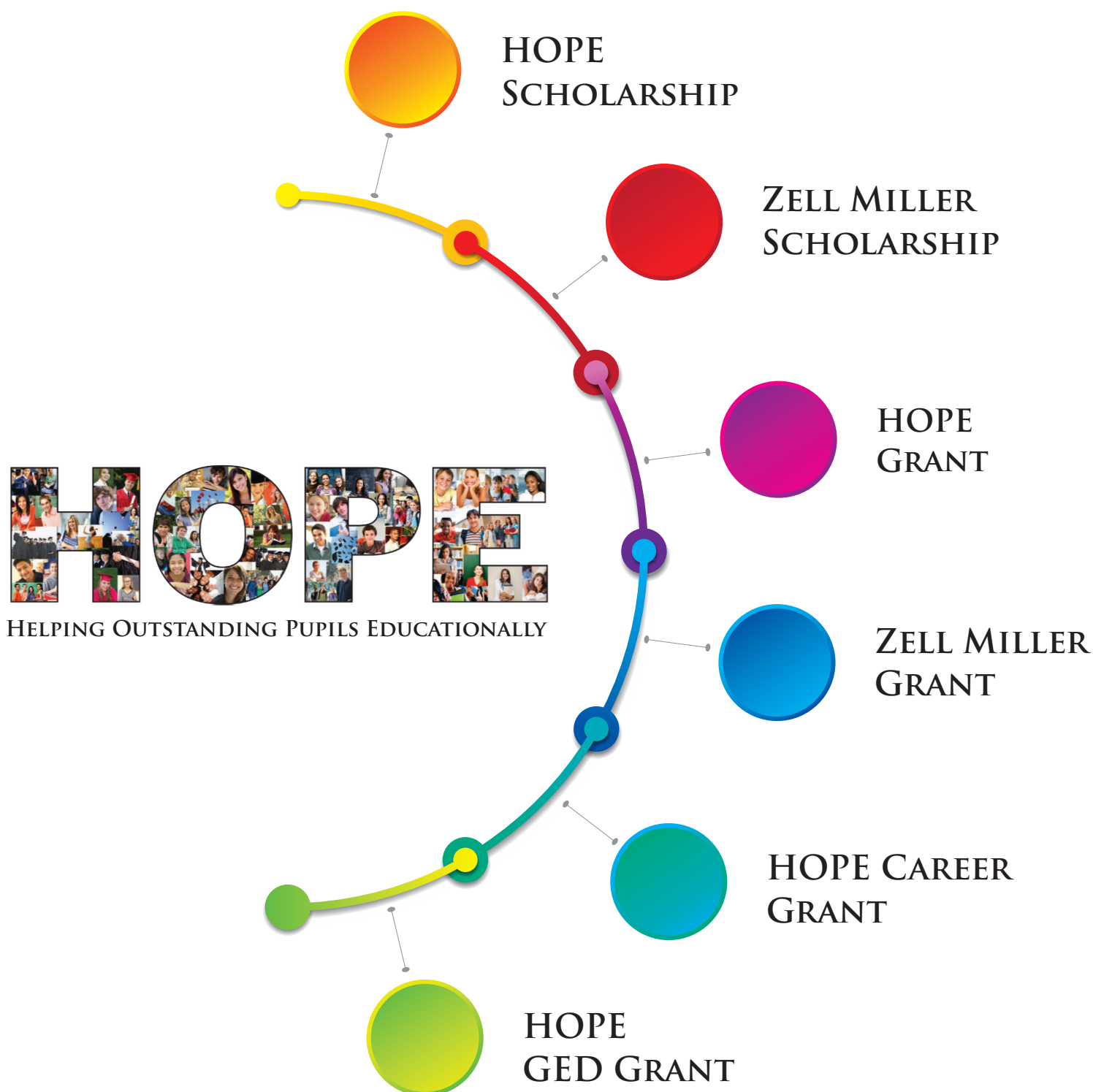


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HOPE AND ZELL MILLER SCHOLARSHIPS

ACADEMIC ELIGIBILITY FROM HIGH SCHOOL

HOPE Scholarship

- 3.0 HOPE GPA as calculated by the Georgia Student Finance Commission (GSFC) in core curriculum courses (English, math, science, foreign language, social science)
- Rigor requirements

Zell Miller Scholarship

- Rigor requirements and one of the following:
- Designated valedictorian or salutatorian
- 3.7 HOPE GPA as calculated by GSFC in core curriculum courses
AND
● Test component: 1200 SAT combined score (Critical Reading and Math) or 26 ACT composite score

WHAT ARE RIGOR REQUIREMENTS?

Rigor courses: *Advanced Math, Advanced Science, Foreign Language, Advanced Placement (AP) in core subjects, International Baccalaureate (IB) in core subjects, degree-level Dual Credit Enrollment courses in core subjects taken at an eligible postsecondary institution.*

Students graduating from high school must earn four full credits from the above list.

AWARD AMOUNTS

	HOPE Scholarship*	Zell Miller Scholarship*
Public Institution	Portion of standard tuition [†]	Full standard tuition [†]
Private Institution	\$2,152 per semester (fall, spring, summer)	\$2,808 per semester (fall, spring, summer)
Full-time	\$1,436 per quarter (fall, winter, spring, summer)	\$1,914 per quarter (fall, winter, spring, summer)
Private Institution	\$1,077 per semester (fall, spring, summer)	\$1,404 per semester (fall, spring, summer)
Half-time	\$719 per quarter (fall, winter, spring, summer)	\$957 per quarter (fall, winter, spring, summer)

*Complete award amounts available on GAfutures.org. [†]Up to 15 credit hours.

MAINTAINING

HOPE Scholarship

- Students must maintain a cumulative 3.0 GPA* at designated checkpoints (end of every spring semester and at 30, 60 and 90 attempted semester hours; end of every spring quarter and at 45, 90 and 135 attempted quarter hours). If a student's GPA falls below a 3.0, they will lose the HOPE Scholarship and will only be eligible to regain it once.

Zell Miller Scholarship

- Students must maintain a cumulative 3.3 GPA* at designated checkpoints (end of every spring semester and at 30, 60 and 90 attempted semester hours; end of every spring quarter and at 45, 90 and 135 attempted quarter hours). If a student's GPA falls below a 3.3, they will lose the Zell Miller Scholarship but may still be eligible for the HOPE Scholarship. Students can regain the Zell Miller Scholarship only once.

*Postsecondary GPA calculation refers to all attempted hours after high school graduation. Approved postsecondary STEM courses taken fall 2017 and later receive .5 weight to grade B, C or D. Approved courses can be found at GAfutures.org. STEM courses taken during high school are not given the STEM weight for postsecondary GPA calculation.

LOSING ELIGIBILITY

A student will lose eligibility for the HOPE Scholarship and the Zell Miller Scholarship due to one of the following:

- GPA requirement not met
- Maximum attempted and/or paid hours reached (127 semester/190 quarter)
- Funds not used within seven years of high school graduation or equivalent (military exception)
- Bachelor's or first professional degree received

HOPE GRANT

ACADEMIC ELIGIBILITY

- No high school graduation requirement
- Must be enrolled in a certificate or diploma program at a University System of Georgia (USG) or Technical College System of Georgia (TCSG) school

AWARD AMOUNT

- Portion of standard tuition, up to 15 credit hours; award amounts available on **GAfutures.org**

MAINTAINING

- Cumulative 2.0 postsecondary GPA or higher at designated checkpoints (30/60 paid semester hours; 45/90 paid quarter hours)
- Only eligible to regain the HOPE Grant once

LOSING ELIGIBILITY

- GPA requirement not met
- Maximum paid hours reached (63 semester/95 quarter)
- Bachelor's or first professional degree received

ZELL MILLER GRANT

ACADEMIC ELIGIBILITY

- No high school graduation requirement
- Must be enrolled in a certificate or diploma program at a University System of Georgia (USG) or Technical College System of Georgia (TCSG) school
- First term awarded retroactively after earning a 3.5 or higher postsecondary GPA

AWARD AMOUNT

- Full standard rate of tuition, up to 15 credit hours; award amounts available on **GAfutures.org**

MAINTAINING

- Cumulative 3.5 or higher postsecondary GPA required at the end of every semester/quarter
- Eligible to regain Zell Miller Grant if minimum GPA earned at the end of the next term

LOSING ELIGIBILITY

- GPA requirement not met
- Maximum paid hours reached (63 semester/95 quarter)
- Bachelor's or first professional degree received

HOPE CAREER GRANT

ACADEMIC ELIGIBILITY

- Enrolled in certain high-demand certificate and diploma programs at a University System of Georgia (USG) or Technical College System of Georgia (TCSG) school
- HOPE Grant and Zell Miller Grant eligibility requirements apply
- Dual credit and/or joint enrollment students not eligible

AWARD AMOUNT

- Awards are a fixed amount per term based on the program and number of hours enrolled
- Approved programs and award amounts available on **GAfutures.org**

*For more information on the HOPE Programs, visit **GAfutures.org**.*

HOPE GED GRANT

ACADEMIC ELIGIBILITY

- Earned a GED diploma from Technical College System of Georgia (TCSG)

AWARD AMOUNT

- \$500 voucher that can be used for tuition, books or other educational costs at an eligible postsecondary institution
- Voucher expires 24 consecutive months after issue date

Students eligible for any of the HOPE Programs must complete a GSFAPPS or current year FAFSA.

OTHER STATE FINANCIAL AID PROGRAMS

In addition to the HOPE Program, GSFC administers other state financial aid programs for the state of Georgia. These programs are designed to assist students with the cost of their postsecondary education.

- | | |
|--|--|
| ● Dual Enrollment | ● Scholarship for Engineering Education |
| ● Georgia Military College State Service Scholarship | ● Student Access Loan |
| ● Georgia National Guard Service Cancelable Loan | ● Tuition Equalization Grant |
| ● HERO Scholarship | ● University of North Georgia Military Scholarship |
| ● Public Safety Memorial Grant | ● University of North Georgia ROTC Grant |
| ● REACH Scholarship | ● University of North Georgia ROTC Grant for Future Officers |

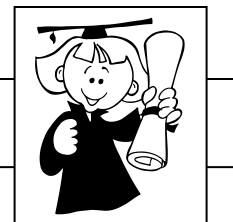
For more information on state financial aid programs, visit GAfutures.org.

ADDITIONAL ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS

In addition to meeting the requirements for specific state financial aid programs, students must meet the following basic eligibility requirements:

- | | |
|---|--|
| ● Be a legal resident of Georgia | ● Meet U.S. citizenship or eligible non-citizen requirements |
| ● Meet academic achievement standards required by the program or college | ● Be in good standing on all student loans or other financial aid programs |
| ● Be registered with the Selective Service, if required | ● Not have exceeded the maximum award limits for any state financial aid program |
| ● Be in compliance with the Georgia Drug-Free Postsecondary Education Act of 1990 | ● Meet enrollment requirements |
| | ● Attend an eligible postsecondary institution |

GRADE POINT AVERAGE (GPA) CHEAT SHEET



As you will soon learn, there are many different definitions of GPA. Here are a few of them:

1. **Cumulative Numeric Average:** Fulton County calculates cumulative numeric averages for students by adding up all grades in all classes and dividing by the total number of classes taken. This numeric average is on a 100 point scale; i.e., 87.963 out of 100. Remember, failed grades, summer school grades, and online grades are included in this. All courses listed on the transcript are averaged together. Also, Fulton County adds 7 points to the final passing grade for each Honors, AP/IB and college course taken (Move On When Ready); therefore, the Cumulative Numeric Average is a weighted average. This is shown as the final grade on the transcript.
2. **Academic GPA:** Fulton County does NOT calculate averages on a 4.0 scale. First you must contact the college to find out how they calculate GPA's. Most will use this scale: A=4.0, B=3.0, C=2.0, and F=0. Looking at your academic courses (Language Arts, Math, Science, Social Studies, Foreign Language) assign a 4, 3, 2 or 0 for each course, add them together and divide by the total number of academic courses. This will be an estimated academic GPA. If the college gives extra points for Honors, AP/IB and Dual Enrollment (Move On When Ready), please add the points before calculating. If the college takes off the additional 7 points added for Honors, AP/IB and Move On When Ready, do that first before assigning the 4, 3, 2, etc. Each college calculates GPA's differently; therefore, you may have 4 or 5 slightly different GPA calculations if you are applying to 4 or 5 different colleges. PLEASE NOTE: Contact the College Admissions office to find out how they calculate the GPA. ***Fulton County counselors CANNOT calculate GPA's for you.***
3. **HOPE Scholarship GPA:** The GPA for the HOPE Scholarship is calculated by averaging **ALL** academic courses (English, Math, Science, Social Studies, and World Language) taken in **high school**, including failed courses. **Grades from high school courses taken in middle school are not calculated in the HOPE GPA.** All courses are averaged together and students need to earn a 3.0 GPA for the HOPE Scholarship and a 3.7 for the Zell Miller Scholarship. In addition, all honors points are removed before the calculation and .50 weighting is added back in for AP/IB and Move On When Ready courses only. The grading scale is as follows A = 90-100 = 4.0, B = 80-89 = 3.0, C = 70-79 = 2.0 F = 0. If it is an honors, AP/IB course, or Move On When Ready course, remove the 7 points before converting to 4, 3, 2 or 0. All AP/IB and Move On When Ready courses can have .50 added back in. For ex: 96 in AP Lang/Comp. Remove 7 points = 89. 89 = 3.0. .50 weighting added back in for an AP course, total weight for this course is 3.5. Please note: A 2.99 GPA does NOT qualify you for HOPE. All calculations are done by the Georgia Student Finance Commission.

CALCULATING THE ACADEMIC GPA

Fulton County does NOT calculate averages on a 4.0 scale. First, contact the college to find out how they calculate GPA's. Most will use this scale: A = 4.0, B = 3.0, C = 2.0 and F = 0. Looking at your academic courses (Language Arts, Math, Science, Social Studies, And World Language) assign a Quality Point of 4.0, 3.0, 2.0 or 0.0 for each course, add them together and divide by the total number of academic courses. This will be an estimated academic GPA. If the college gives extra points for Honors, AP/IB and Dual Enrollment (Move On When Ready), please add the points before calculating. If the college takes off the additional 7 points added for Honors, AP and Dual Enrollment, do that first before assigning the 4.0, 3.0, 2.0, etc. Each college calculates GPA's differently. PLEASE NOTE: Contact the College Admissions office to find out how they calculate the GPA.

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