

College Entrance Exams: What are they?

Most colleges require students to report either SAT or ACT scores. Many students take both tests to see which they perform best on, although colleges do not require both exams. A growing number of universities are 'test optional' which means you can apply without sending any test scores at all.

ACT Exam

A 3 hour exam covering math, science, and verbal skills. Includes a writing section. Most colleges require either the ACT or SAT exam. Now offered at Dunn School.

www.actstudent.org Practice ACT tests, problems, registration and test dates. You will send your scores to colleges from this Website. Registration requires a credit card.

SAT Exam

The SAT Reasoning Exam is a 3.75 hour exam covering math, critical reading and writing. Most colleges require either the SAT or ACT exam. Offered at Dunn School.

The SAT Subject Tests are one hour exams in 5 fields: math, science, history, literature and languages. Multiple exams are offered in each subject. Many universities require subject tests. Some engineering programs require math and science tests. You choose your best exams. Recommended for most students looking at competitive colleges.

www.collegeboard.org Practice SAT tests, problems, registration and test dates. You will send your scores to colleges from this Website. Registration requires a credit card.

TOEFL

Test of English as a Foreign Language. Required by colleges for all international students whose first language is not English. Each college has a minimum score they will accept. Not offered at Dunn. Students must pay for a drive to Lompoc or Santa Barbara.

www.toeflgoanywhere.org Practice TOEFL problems. Dates, locations, registration (credit card required). Searchable database of each college's minimum score required.

AP Exams

Culminating exam following an AP class. Required for all Dunn students if you're enrolled in the correlated AP class. You may take an AP exam in classes not offered at Dunn School if you've self-taught or pursued college coursework (34 exams offered in a wide range of subjects). You request scores by telephone to be sent to the colleges of your choice.

www.collegeboard.org for details on AP exams offered.

Extended Time and Accommodations

Available to students with learning disabilities. Must petition *each* testing company for approval, and often difficult to win. See Mrs. Vincent ASAP if you might qualify.

When and where are college entrance exams given?

Upcoming test date

Register online by*

**Immediately give your registration ticket to Ms. Holmes!*

February 11: ACT exam at Dunn

January 13

March 3: TOEFL Exam in Santa Barbara

January 10

March 10: SAT exam at Dunn (no subject tests)

February 10

May 5: SAT exam at Dunn (subject test option)

April 6

May 7 -18: AP exams offered at Dunn

Sept – Dec of 2012: ACT, SAT and SAT subject tests will be offered at Dunn multiple times

How should you prepare?

Highly Recommended

- Each test Website has online practice questions, sample exams, and detailed information. Make yourself comfortable with the test format at these Websites.
- Buy a book with test strategies, practice problems, and multiple full-length practice tests. Good bets are ***Kaplan*** and ***Princeton Review***.
- It's important to take several full-length practice tests to prepare your brain.
- See if you like new iphone and ipad apps, or Web apps that are available for test prep.

Optional Extras

- Hire a tutor for individual coaching, especially if you don't understand the content. Dunn can give you leads on SAT tutors who can work with you in the library.
- Take a weekend series of classes offered at Dunn through the Princeton Review. Details TBD.
- Take a summer test-prep class in your hometown, or at a university.