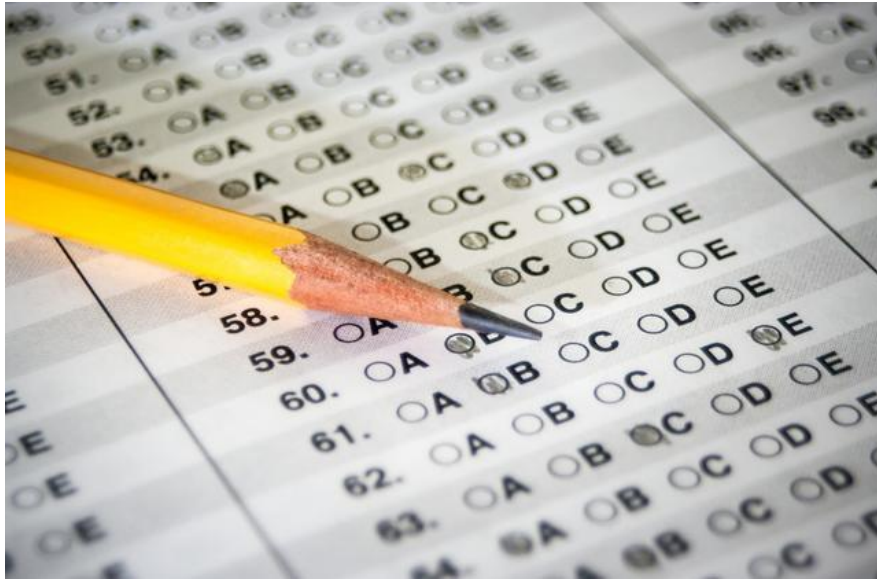


**PREPARING  
SWHS JUNIORS  
FOR SUCCESS:  
SAT & ACT**



# WHEN SHOULD STUDENTS TAKE THE SAT & ACT?



-We recommend juniors take it during the late fall or spring semester.

-Students should then re-take the test as needed until they get the score they need to qualify to get into the college of their choice.



# WHY DO I NEED TO TAKE THE SAT OR ACT?

-The SAT and ACT are general aptitude tests to help colleges know which students are academically talented and it offers a metric to measure it.

-The real purpose is that it allows students to get into college.

-Keep tests in perspective. No matter how a college uses scores in the admissions process, your scores are just one of many factors. Colleges admit students with a range of scores. Think of scores as a guide, not a cut-off. To find out what your choice schools require check out this website: <https://bigfuture.collegeboard.org/find-colleges>

**Study hard and you'll be rewarded!**

# SAT/ACT LOCATIONS, DATES, COST & REGISTRATION

## SAT

March 11th  
May 6th  
June 3rd

\$45.00

\$57.00

(w/essay)

-Tests offered at WWU, BEHS & Arlington HS  
-Google SAT registration & set up a College Board account to get started

## ACT

April 8th  
June 10th

\$42.50

\$58.50

(w/writing)

-Tests offered at WWU & Arlington HS  
-Google ACT registration & set up an ACT Web account to get started

[www.collegeboard.org](http://www.collegeboard.org)

[www.actstudent.org](http://www.actstudent.org)

\*\*Fee waivers are available for students who qualify.

# SAT OR ACT...

## THAT IS THE QUESTION!

How many times is the test administered each year?

SAT

-Offered 7 times a year

ACT

-Offered 6 times a year

Is there a penalty for wrong answers?

SAT

-No

ACT

-No



# WHAT IS THE TEST STRUCTURE OF THE SAT AND ACT?

- The SAT has 3 sections: Critical Reading (65 mins), Writing (35 mins), Math (80 mins), and an optional Essay (50 mins)
- The ACT has 4 sections: Reading (35 mins), English (45 mins), Math (60 mins), Science Reasoning (35 mins), and an optional Writing test (40 mins)



# WHAT IS THE TEST CONTENT?

## SAT:

- Evidence-Based Reading:** sentence completion; short & long critical reading passages; reading comprehension
- Evidence-Based Writing:** an essay; questions testing grammar, usage, & word choice
- Math:** up to basic geometry and algebra II
- Essay:** (optional, but most colleges and universities require it) tests reading, analysis, and writing skills; students produce a written analysis of a provided source text

## ACT:

- Math:** up to trigonometry
- Science:** charts; experiments
- Reading:** four passages, one each of prose fiction, social sciences, humanities, & natural sciences
- English:** stresses grammar
- Writing:** an essay (optional, but most colleges and universities now require it)



# HOW IS THE TEST SCORED?

## SAT:

- 200-800 for each subject, added together for a combined score
- 1600 is the highest possible combined score
- Optional Essay: reported in 3 dimensions, each 2–8

## ACT:

- 1-36 for each test, averaged together for a composite score
- 36 is the highest possible composite score
- Optional Writing domain scores: 2–12





# ARE ALL SCORES SENT TO SCHOOLS?

## SAT: Yes

- If a student requests a score report be sent to specific colleges the report will include all scores the student received on every SAT taken.

## ACT: No

- There is a “Score Choice” option. Students can choose which schools will receive their scores AND which scores the schools will see.



# WHEN IS THE BEST TIME TO REGISTER?

SAT: At least 4 weeks before the test date

ACT: At least 5 weeks before the test date

\*\*There are late fees for registering after the deadline.

# NEED MORE INFORMATION?

FOR SAT INFO: Visit The College Board at  
[www.collegeboard.org](http://www.collegeboard.org)

FOR ACT INFO:  
[www.actstudent.org](http://www.actstudent.org)

FOR GENERAL COLLEGE & CAREER INFO:  
Contact Jennifer Daley in the SWHS Counseling Office:  
360-855-3940 or [jdaley@swsd.k12.wa.us](mailto:jdaley@swsd.k12.wa.us)

