

The More you know...about College Entrance Exams



What are your plans after high school graduation?

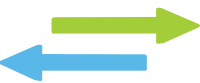
- Military
- Apprenticeship
- Work
- Technical College/Trade Training
- College



Does your career choice require a...?

- Technical College training - diploma, or certificate
- 2-year Associate degree
- 4-year Bachelor degree
- Graduate or Professional degree

Where do you go from here?



Map your future and start here:

- Does your career/college choice not require an ACT or SAT at all?
 - € Yes
 - € No
 - € Other _____

- Check your **GA College 411** portfolio...
 - € Are you enrolled in rigorous courses that will prepare you for college, technical school, the world of work?
List the specific courses: (Examples: Advanced Placement (AP), International Baccalaureate (IB), Dual Enrollment)

- Did you take the PSAT in grades 10 & 11? Yes _____ No _____
 - € How are you using your PSAT results? _____
 - € How are you using "**My College Quick Start**" to improve identified areas of weaknesses?

- How are you using **College Test Prep** on **GA College411** to prepare for the...
 - € ACT _____
 - € SAT _____
 - € More- GHS GT, EOCT, COMPASS/EL, ASSET, Georgia WORK READY _____

Know the facts...

What is the difference between the ACT and SAT?

- The ACT is an achievement test, measuring what a student has learned in school. The SAT is more of an aptitude test, testing reasoning and verbal abilities.
- The ACT has up to 5 components: English, Mathematics, Reading, Science, and an optional Writing Test. The SAT has only 3 components: Critical Reasoning, Mathematics, and a required Writing Test.
- The College Board introduced a new version of the SAT in 2005, with a **mandatory** writing test. ACT continues to offer its well-established test, plus an **optional** writing test. **You take the ACT Writing Test only if required by the college(s) to which you are applying.**
- The SAT has a correction for guessing. That is, they take off for wrong answers. The ACT is scored based on the number of correct answers with no penalty for guessing.
- The ACT has an Interest Inventory that allows students to evaluate their interests in various career options.

	ACT	SAT
	Designed to measure academic achievement in the areas of English, mathematics, reading, and science.	Designed to measure critical reading, writing, and mathematical reasoning skills.
Length	3 hours, 25 min (with Writing Test)	3 hours, 45 minutes
Structure	English, Math, Reading, Science, and Writing Test	Critical Reasoning, Mathematics, Writing
Score	Composite of 1-36 based on average scores from the 4 test sections 4 scores of 1-36 for each test Writing Test score of 0-12 (not included in the overall score)	Total score range of 600-2400 based on adding scores from 3 subjects 3 scores of 200-800 for each subject Score of 0-12 for the Essay
Wrong Answer Penalty	No penalty for wrong answers	¼ point subtracted from your raw score for each wrong answer (except for Math Grid-Ins)
Reading	Reading Comprehension	Reading Comprehension Sentence Completions
Math	Arithmetic Algebra Geometry Algebra II Trigonometry	Arithmetic Algebra Geometry Algebra II Data Analysis
Science	Analysis Interpretation Evaluation Basic Content Problem Solving	Not applicable
Essay	30 Minutes Not Included in Composite Score Topic of importance to high school students	25 Minutes Factored into overall score More abstract topic

- **College Entrance Exams should be taken in the 2nd semester of the Junior year AND 1st semester of the Senior year.**
- **To increase their opportunity for optimal performance, student should not take the ACT or SAT until having successfully completed Mathematics II and is enrolled in Mathematics III.**
- **See your School Counselor for further guidance on which test is best for you.**
- **For more detailed information and online test prep visit: www.act.org OR www.collegeboard.com**