

## SAT and ACT Information

Current juniors who plan to attend a four-year college in the fall of 2011 should take the SAT's and/or ACT during the spring of their junior year. However, in some cases, students who need to take the SAT Subject Tests may want to test earlier for the Subject Test. For example, if a student chooses World History for one of the subjects, the student should take the World History test in late spring of their sophomore year, while the subject matter is fresh. **Juniors should have all the necessary SAT's and/or ACT completed by the end of their junior year. This will give them time to repeat tests, if necessary, during the fall of their senior year,** (December may be too late for some colleges). The Counseling Office recommends that students take the college entrance exams at least twice to ensure the best results since colleges will take the best scores.

The SAT Reasoning Test includes a writing section. Students will be asked to write an essay. Students must use a pencil and can choose to print or write in cursive. The critical reading section will include short and long reading passages. The math section will include items from third-year college-preparatory math (Algebra II).

The SAT Subject Test (SAT II) will offer a variety of subjects. Students must choose two subjects to meet the UC requirement. These tests can be repeated. Students can test in as many subjects as they wish and can use the two best scores from two different subjects. However, some colleges require test scores from specific subjects according to declared majors. Students selecting Math as a subject choice must take level 2 to meet the UC requirement. Students are advised to go online and check with each college to which they are applying to see if there are certain subject test requirements that must be met.

The ACT, a different brand of college test, is an acceptable alternate for the SAT Reasoning Test (SAT I) at the University of California, the California State University, and many other four-year colleges and universities. The ACT includes a science section as well as reading, math and an essay. In addition to the SAT Reasoning Test (SAT I) or the ACT, the UC's (as well as some private or out of state colleges) require the SAT Subject Test (SAT II). Please be sure to check requirements with the colleges of your choice.

The new ACT will include a writing test for an additional fee. Be sure to add the writing test to your registration since it is not automatically included in the ACT.

Check the following web sites to obtain more information and to register online for the tests you choose. For the SAT: [www.collegeboard.com](http://www.collegeboard.com)

For the ACT: [www.act.org](http://www.act.org)