Education/Training

COLLEGE ENTRANCE EXAMS - SAT OR ACT?

Both the SAT and ACT are accepted at colleges and generally test the same content. The biggest differences between the tests are that the ACT has a Science Test and the SAT has one Math section for which you cannot use a calculator. If you have a documented disability, you may be eligible able to take the SAT or ACT with accommodations. *(See chart on following page)*

SAT LINKS
To register:
https://collegereadiness.college-board.org/sat/register

To request accommodations:
https://accommodations.college-board.org/

ACT LINKS
To register:
http://www.act.org/content/act/en/products-and-services/the-act.html

To request accommodations:
http://www.act.org/content/act/en/products-and-services/the-act/registration/accommodations.html

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Type	SAT	ACT
Why Take It	Colleges use SAT scores for admissions and merit-based scholarships.	Colleges use ACT scores for admissions and merit-based scholarships.
Test Structure	Reading, Writing & Language, Math, Essay (Optional)	English, Math, Reading, Science Reasoning, Essay (Optional)
Length	3 hours (plus 50 minutes for the optional Essay)	2 hours, 55 minutes (plus 40 minutes for the optional Essay)
Reading	5 reading passages	4 reading passages
Science	None	1 science section testing your critical thinking skills (not your specific science knowledge)
Math	Covers: Arithmetic, Algebra I & II, Geometry, Trigonometry and Data Analysis	Covers: Arithmetic, Algebra I & II, Geometry and Trigonometry
Calculator Policy	Some math questions don't allow you to use a calculator.	You can use a calculator on all math questions.
Essays	Optional. The essay will test your comprehension of a source text.	Optional. The essay will test how well you evaluate and analyze complex issues.
How It's Scored	Scored on a scale of 400–1600 Scores based on number of correct answers. No penalty for incorrect answers.	Scored on a scale of 1–36 Scores based on number of correct answers. No penalty for incorrect answers.
How to Request Accommodations	1. Request accommodations early – it can take 7 weeks to process request. 2. Submit completed Parent Consent Form to school SSD Coordinator. 3. SSD Coordinator requests accommodations using SSD Online. 4. SSD Coordinator submits additional documentation if requested by SSD Online. Documentation must be submitted by SSD Deadline. 5. SSD reviews information and notifies student and SSD Coordinator of decision. 6. If approved, the SSD Decision Letter contains eligibility letter, test-by-test details and student's eligibility code needed for SAT registration. 7. Use your SSD number when you register online and check your SAT admission ticket to make sure accommodations are noted. 8. Bring your SSD Eligibility Letter with you on test day.	1. Register for the ACT; select type of accommodations needed. 2. Receive email from ACT with accommodation instructions; forward email and completed Consent to Release Information form to your school official. 3. School official submits request to ACT; ACT review and notifies school; school official should contact you within 2 weeks of submitting request. *Sources:* *Princeton Review - https://www. princetonreview.com/college/sat-act* *ACT: http://www.act.org/content/act/ en/products-and-services/the-act/ registration/accommodations.html* *SAT: https://accommodations. collegeboard.org/*