

ACT or SAT?

Which Test Should You Take?



	ACT	SAT
Test Style	Indicate what you have learned in high school.	Predict your success in college as well as what you have learned.
Fee	\$50.50 / \$67 with writing	\$47.50 / \$22 Subject Tests
Scoring	No penalty for incorrect answers	New - No penalty for incorrect answers
Location	Local schools (CHHS is a testing site)	Limited Locations in Utah
Acceptance	All states/schools	All states/schools
Teens who did well on this test:	Are fast readers Process information quickly Possess strong memory Well-rounded on all core subjects	Possess strong vocabulary Are avid readers Like test-taking strategies Enjoy puzzles
To Write or Not To Write?	Optional essay that will test how well you evaluate and analyze complex issues	Optional essay will test your comprehension of a source text
Test Info	Reading: 40 questions/35 min English, including Simple vocabulary Tests short-term memory Science & Math	Critical Reading: 54 Questions/70 min Reading sections are trickier Writing Math (no Science sections)
Tips	Focus on the timing of each test. Mark an answer for every question – do not leave any blanks.	Use your problem-solving skills. Work on logical thinking. Brush up on reading and essay writing.
Additional Test Components	Writing is optional. Most schools do not require it, but some recommend that you provide the additional score.	Individual subject tests are available to indicate: What makes you unique? Where do you excel?
National Average Score	21	1509
Registration	More information at www.act.org	More information at www.collegeboard.com

If you want to know which test to take, take a practice test for both ACT and SAT.

- While all schools in the U.S. accept both tests, it is a good idea to check with your intended school to learn if they have a preference.
- You can also check your intended school to see if it is required to report a score. SLCC will accept students without one, although you will need to take a placement test (Accuplacer) for Math and English classes.
- Want to do well? Get some good books and read, read, read! Studies show those who can read well do better.
- When considering which test to take, keep in mind that both tests allot ample time for completion, but the SAT has fewer questions — 154 questions on the SAT compared to the 215 on the ACT. The SAT also focuses heavily on vocabulary, while the ACT hones in on grammar and punctuation.