



Education Newsletter



VOLUME 1, ISSUE 3

APRIL 2018

APRIL TOPIC OF INTEREST

ACT or SAT?

Parents:
As your teenagers prepares for college, take advantage of assistance provided at their high schools to prepare them for testing (free test prep) as well as opportunities to take the SAT or ACT free of coast (for 10th or 11th graders). Review the information in this edition that highlights the differences between the two tests and don't hesitate to ask if you have questions.

Students:
It is most beneficial to take both tests so that your higher score can be used when applying for college and scholarships. Take the tests more than once to give yourself optimal opportunity to do your best.

Be sure to take the practice tests to familiarize yourself with the format and content of each test. You will find that the SAT contains multiple short sections with a mix of subject matter, while the ACT is separated in sections by subject matter.

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Testing Edition

This issue is designed to help students and their parents become well informed of available preparatory opportunities as they get ready for standardized testing. Knowing what resources are available and taking advantage of various levels of support will equip students with the knowledge and comfort to excel on any test they may take.

	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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reading • Writing & Language • Math • Essay (Optional) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • English • Math • Reading • Science Reasoning • Essay (Optional)
Length	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 3 hours (without essay) • 3 hours, 50 minutes (with essay) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 2 hours, 55 minutes (without essay) • 3 hours, 40 minutes (with 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: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Arithmetic • Algebra I & II • Geometry, Trigonometry, Data Analysis 	Covers: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Arithmetic • Algebra I & II • Geometry, 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	Scored on a scale of 1–36

Information in table retrieved from <https://www.princetonreview.com/college/sat-act>

ACT Prep

Visit www.act.org

ACT Academy™ for test prep
- a cost-free, individualized practice for the ACT
- free online learning tool and test practice program

<https://academy.act.org/>
<http://www.act.org/content/dam/act/unsecured/documents/Preparing-for-the-ACT.pdf>

2018-19 ACT Test Dates:
September 8, 2018 – Register by August 5
October 27, 2018 – September 21
December 8, 2018 – November 2
February 9, 2019 – January 11
April 13, 2019 – March 8
June 8, 2019 – May 3

SAT Prep

Visit www.collegeboard.org

SAT Practice Tests
- a cost-free, individualized practice for the SAT
- free online learning tool and test practice

<http://collegereadiness.collegeboard.org/sat/practice>

2018-19 SAT Test Dates:
August 25, 2018 – Register by July 25
October 6, 2018 – Register by September 6
November 3, 2018 – Register by October 3
December 1, 2018 – Register by November 1
March 8, 2019 – Register by February 8
May 4, 2019 – Register by April 4
June 1, 2019 – Register by May 1

Preparing for the EOG and NCFE

Test Taking Skills and Preparation Before the Test

- Preparation for your first test should begin on the first day of class; this includes paying attention during class, taking good notes, studying, completing homework assignments and reviewing study materials on a regular basis.
- Budget your time, make sure you have sufficient time to study so that you are well prepared for the test.
- Go to review sessions, pay attention to hints that the instructor may give about the test. Take notes and ask questions about items you may be confused about.
- Go over any material from practice tests, HW's, sample problems, review material, the textbook, ect.
- Eat before a test. Having food in your stomach will give you energy and help you focus but avoid heavy foods which can make you groggy.
- Don't try to pull an all nighter. Get at least 8 hours of sleep before the test enough to focus during the test.
- Put the main ideas/information/formulas onto a sheet that can be quickly reviewed many times, this makes it easier to retain the key concepts that will be on the test.

Be Ready on Test Day

- Try to maintain a positive attitude while preparing for the test and during the test.
- Show up to class early so you won't have to worry about being late.
- Stay relaxed, if you begin to get nervous take a few deep breaths slowly to relax yourself and then get back to work.
- Read the directions slowly and carefully.
- Skim through the test so that you have a good idea how to pace yourself.
- Write down important formulas, facts, definitions and/or keywords in the margin first so you won't worry about forgetting them.
- Do the simple questions first to help build up your confidence for the harder questions.
- Don't worry about how fast other people finish their test; just concentrate on your own test.
- If you don't know an answer to a question skip it for the time being (come back to it later if you have time), and remember that you don't have to always get every question right to do well on the test.
- Focus on the question at hand. Don't let your mind wander on other things.

Information retrieved from <https://www.testtakingtips.com>

Be sure to see the attached article titled, "THE ROLE OF EXTRACURRICULAR ACTIVITIES IN A STUDENT'S DEVELOPMENT" Posted by Nicole Jackson from <https://www.theeducator.com/blog/role-extracurricular-activities-students-development/>

What to Look For in the May Issue

-Ending the school year on a positive note—the *Final Push* to June

-Sign up information for the SAMBC EOG Prep Camp and Parent Forum- May 19, 2018
Flyer and sign-up details available in the vestibule on April 1, 2018.

-ATTENTION High School/College Students and Adults— We need your help in tutoring 3rd through 8th grade students. Please contact Nina Jordan at (919)586-1564 to volunteer.

Saint Augusta Missionary Baptist Church **Rev. Dr. Marvin Connelly, Jr., Pastor**

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Stream with us on **Periscope**. Connect through Facebook or Twitter.

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