

COLLEGE ADMISSIONS TEST TIMELINE

ACT = American College Test
 SAT = SAT Reasoning Test
 SAT II = SAT Subject Tests
 PSAT = Practice SAT
 PLAN = Practice ACT

The University of California requires the SAT, or the ACT with Writing, plus 2 SAT Subject Tests. The Subject Tests must represent 2 different academic areas (Literature, History, Science, Foreign Language, or Math 2). If you take more than 2 subject tests, UC will use the highest scores from 2 different academic areas. You may take 1, 2 or 3 Subject Tests on an SAT test date.

The Cal State system requires the SAT Reasoning Test, or the ACT (with or without Writing). You must write the essay on the SAT; it is mandatory.

Sophomore Year:

| Oct | Nov | Dec | Mar/Apr | May | June |
|------|-----------|------|---------|-----|---------|
| PSAT | <u>or</u> | PLAN | | | *SAT II |

* Biology or Chemistry or World History

Junior Year:

| Oct | Nov | Dec | Mar/Apr | May | June |
|------|-----|-----|----------|----------------------------|----------------------------------|
| PSAT | | | SAT, ACT | SAT <u>or</u> SAT II | ACT, SAT, <u>or</u> SAT II |

Senior Year:

| Oct | Nov | December |
|---------------------------------|----------------------------|---------------------------------|
| SAT, ACT <u>or</u> SAT II | SAT <u>or</u> SAT II | SAT, ACT <u>or</u> SAT II |

Take the PSAT (3rd Saturday in October) in 10th grade if you are enrolled in Algebra II. Take the PLAN if you are enrolled in Geometry. ALL college-bound

11th graders should take or re-take the PSAT. *The more practice tests you take the better prepared you will be for the real test!*

ACT

- Science, Math, Reading, English
- Math up to Trigonometry
- Curriculum-based
- No penalty for guessing
- All multiple-choice
- Vocabulary less important than SAT
- Essay - Optional
- Essay - last test given
- Essay - 30 minutes
- Essay - teen friendly topic
- Score Choice (score report is not cumulative)
- No experimental section

SAT Reasoning Test

- Critical Reading, Math, Writing
- Math up to Algebra II
- Reasoning-based
- Penalty for guessing (points deducted)
- Math grid-ins (not multiple choice)
- Vocabulary more important than ACT
- Essay - Mandatory
- Essay - first test given
- Essay - 25 minutes
- Essay - academic prompt
- Score Choice available in Spring 2009
- Experimental section

SAT SUBJECT TESTS

Literature

Math Level 1 or 2 (UC does not accept Math Level 1)

Biology (Ecological or Molecular), Chemistry, Physics

World History, U.S. History

Languages: French, Spanish, German, Modern Hebrew, Latin, Italian, Chinese, Japanese, Korean