The ACT®

8 REASONS TO CHOOSE THE ACT® TEST

1 STEM Readiness
The ACT® test is the only admissions test to measure science skills, including a STEM score to let you know if you are ready for a STEM major.

2 Scholarships
Taking the ACT® test can increase your chances of earning new or better scholarships.

3 You've already been studying for the ACT for years
The test is designed so by the end of your junior year, you've likely covered all the material that you will see on the test.

4 More Opportunity
Many colleges and universities require or consider college entrance scores as part of a holistic admissions process.

5 English Learner Support
The ACT® test is the only college entrance exam that provides support to English learners on national test dates.

6 You can use your calculator for the whole math test—we don't mind
ACT lets you use your calculator for the entire math section! That is not true on the SAT.

7 Prep for All Learning Styles
ACT offers test prep programs with live video lessons, interactive practice questions, full-length practice tests, and on-demand tutorials.

8 College and Career Planning
The ACT includes an education and career planning section to help you plan for life after high school.

Find out more at act.org/student.

Comparison of the ACT to the SAT*

	ACT	SAT
Accepted at all US colleges	✔	✔
Calculator allowed for entire math test	✔	✖
Essay is optional	✔	✔
No penalty for guessing	✔	✔
Free daily practice questions	✔	✔
Free comprehensive test practice	✔	✔
Test fees waived for eligible students	✔	✔
Fee waiver students eligible for college application fee waiver	✔	✔
Free score reports	✔	✔
All tests 1 hour or less	✔	✖
Measures what you learn in high school	✔	✔
You have access to English learner supports	✔	✖
You get a STEM score	✔	✖
Subject scores are balanced	✔	✖
Testing time	2 hours 55 minutes + 40-minute essay (optional)	3 hours + 50-minute essay (optional)
Structure	4 tests + optional writing test	3 tests + optional essay
Longest test	1 hour	1 hour 20 minutes
Shortest test	35 minutes	35 minutes
Score range	Composite 1–36 (writing domain scores: 2–12)	Composite 400–1600 (SAT Essay: reported in 3 dimensions, each 2–8)

*Based on publicly released SAT information.