

Comparison of ACT and SAT Tests

	ACT	SAT
Type of Test	An achievement test based largely on what students learn in their classes.	A reasoning test assessing general ability.
Sections	<u>Four sections:</u> One English One math One reading One science reasoning One optional writing section One experimental section	<u>10 sections:</u> Three critical reading Three math Three writing One experimental section
Length	Two hours and 55 minutes, plus an additional 30 minutes for the writing test.	Three hours and 45 minutes.
Penalty for Wrong Answers	No.	Yes.
Scoring Method	1-36 for each subject, which is averaged for the highest possible score of 36.	200-800 per section with 2400 the highest possible score.
Cost	The basic cost is \$35, which includes sending scores to four colleges. The basic registration fee for the ACT with the writing section is \$50.50.	The SAT Reasoning test costs \$50, which includes sending scores to four colleges.
Test Dates	Five national test dates and one additional test date in selected states.	Seven test dates between October and June.
Required to Submit Scores to Colleges?	No. Students can choose which schools will receive their scores and which scores the schools will see.	Yes. If a student requests a score report to be sent to the colleges of their choice, the report will automatically be sent and will include scores for every SAT the student has taken.
Web Site	http://www.act.org	www.collegeboard.com