

College Entrance Exams – What You Need to Know

GRB Counseling Office
College & Career Readiness

What is a college entrance exam?

- A standardized test – compares students across the state, country and internationally.
- Offered on several dates throughout the school year (not during summer vacation).
- Required by most four-year and some two-year colleges.

Should I plan to take a college entrance exam?

- Yes... if you plan to apply to a four-year college.
- Yes... if you plan to apply to some select two-year colleges.
- Maybe... community colleges and many trade or vocational schools may not require college entrance exams for admission.
- No... if you do not plan to attend college.

Test Optional Colleges

- Cazenovia College
- Daemen College
- Elmira College
- Hamilton College
- Hartwick College
- Hobart & William Smith
- Houghton College
- Ithaca College
- Le Moyne College
- Nazareth College
- Niagara College
- Paul Smith's College
- St. Johns University
- St. Lawrence University
- SUNY Delhi
- SUNY Potsdam
- Utica College
- Wells College

<http://fairtest.org/>

How many college entrance
exams are there?

There are 2 exams -

the ACT and the SAT

Which exam should I take?

Take both exams.

Why?

- Most colleges will accept the higher score from either exam.
- The two tests are significantly different.

What are the differences?

ACT

Includes 1 section each of:

English

Mathematics

Reading

Science

Writing (optional)

SAT

Includes sections each of:

Reading

Writing & Language

Math – With Calculator

Math – Without Calculator

Essay (optional)

When should I take a college entrance exam?

- Before the end of your junior year.
- Again, if needed, in August or at the beginning of your senior year.
- G. Ray Bodley High School is a test center for ACTs in June, October and December; for SATs in June and December.

Is there a cost? Yes!

- Registration Fee: Both exams require a registration fee to sign up.
- Late Fees: Deadlines are strictly enforced, and late fees are substantial.
- Change Fees: Any change (date, location, etc.) to the original registration incurs a fee.
- Fee Waivers: Students who meet certain income guidelines may be eligible for a fee waiver to take the exam at no cost to them.

How do I register for a college entrance exam?

- Online: Both testing agencies recommend online registration.
- Link through us: Link to both exams through the GRB Counseling website.
- Or go directly to www.collegeboard.org or www.act.org

Counseling Office

Scheduling & Course
Catalogs

Graduation Requirements

FAQ's

Post-High School Planning

College Sports

College Testing

Paying for College

Scholarships

Summer Sessions

College Testing

Matt Goodnough
A-K Juniors & Seniors

Meghan Frein
L-Z Juniors & Seniors

Tiffany Stubbman
Sophomores

Laura Hyde
Freshman

Kelly Rickert
8th Graders

Beth Mahaney
7th Graders

GRB High School
(CEEB) Code: 332-020

SAT Test Center
Code: 33-428 •

ACT Test Center
Code: 189840



G. Ray Bodley's College Testing Program

PSAT/NMSQT®

Grade 11
(selected
Grade 10)

The [PSAT](#) (Preliminary SAT) is a test for juniors from the College Board. All students in grade 11 and select students in grade 10 will take the PSAT during the school day on October 14 at GRB.

SAT

Grade 11/12

The [SAT](#)
GRB Test Center Code: 33-428
GRB High School (CEEB) Code: 332-020

ACT

Grade 11/12

The [ACT](#)
GRB Test Center Code: 189840
GRB High School (CEEB) Code: 332-020

[SAT](#) ▼[PSAT/NMSQT and PSAT 10](#) ▼[PSAT 8/9](#) ▼[About](#) ▼[For Educators](#) ▼[Imp](#)

Show Colleges You're

Register for the March SAT by February 9 to avoid a

Register Now


Reports to



Get Your SAT Scores



Practice for
Your PSAT



THE ACT TEST FOR STUDENTS

It is the leading US college admissions test measuring what you learn in high school to determine your academic readiness for college.

THE ACT TEST

Can I get test accommodations if I have an IEP?

- If approved by the testing agency students with an Individual Education Plan (IEP) or 504 Plan may get test accommodations.
- A request for approval must be submitted by the school well in advance of the testing date. Talk to your caseworker or Mrs. Simonds.

Should I sign up for the optional essays on the SAT and ACT ?

- The ACT and SAT exams will offer the option of registering for the test with or without an essay.
- All colleges will set their own policy as to whether a writing or essay score is required, so check your colleges admission requirements to be sure.
- If you are unsure where you will be applying, it makes sense to take the essay.

SAT Subject Tests

- SAT Subject Tests are separate from what is commonly referred to as the SAT and must be taken on a different testing date.
- SAT Subject Tests are required by some elite colleges and universities and are one hour long tests in specific subjects such as history, biology or calculus.
- Check to see if your college requires Subject Tests.

What should I do to prepare for the exams?

- Choose challenging course work each year in high school.
- Work continuously to improve reading, writing and math skills.
- Use free online sources to become familiar with the test directions, test format and the types of questions asked.
- Take timed practice tests.
- Take advantage of test prep options.

Test Day - What to remember...

- Current Photo ID – REQUIRED
- Admission ticket with photo - REQUIRED.
- An approved calculator with fresh batteries.
- Two, no. 2 lead pencils and a soft eraser.
- If you bring a cell phone, turn it off and put it away – use of your cell may result in dismissal.
- Get a good night's rest and eat a normal breakfast before testing.
- Arrive at least 15 minutes early.

What your photo should look like

Sample Admission Ticket with Photo

SAT® Admission Ticket		SAT
	Student Name:	Jane K. Zilo
	Student Address:	123 Elm Street Princeton, VA 20105
	Birth Date:	3/11/1995
	Gender:	Female
	High School:	470135 BROAD RUN HIGH SCHOOL ASHBURN, VA 20147
	BRING THIS TICKET TO THE TEST CENTER!	
	You won't be admitted without it.	
Test Date: December 1, 2012	Test Type: SAT	Test Center: 47473: MIDDLEBURG ACADEMY 26321 NOTRE DAME LANE MIDDLEBURG, VA 20117 3621
Registration Number: 0000109161		
<p>Report to your test center no later than 7:45 a.m. unless otherwise noted on this ticket. Safeguard this Admission Ticket as you would any other piece of identification. You must keep this Admission Ticket with you at all times in the test center.</p>		
		

Once I take the exams, how do colleges get my scores?

2 ways:

- First and best, when you register online, you can list up to 4 colleges or universities for no additional cost – it's included with your registration fee! You will pay to send scores later.
- Second, when you register, indicate that GRB is your home school by filling in the appropriate code number. Your scores will be added to your transcript which some, but not all, colleges will treat as “official.”

What should I do when I leave today?

- Select the exam(s) you will be taking, including the date(s) and location(s) where you want to take the exams.
- Check your calendar so there are no conflicts with other important dates.
- Register online.
- Print your admission ticket.
- Prepare for the exam.

Dates, Deadlines and Costs

Exam	Exam Date	Deadline	Cost
ACT @ GRB	June 9	May 4	\$46.00 No Writing \$62.50 with Writing
SAT @ GRB	June 2	May 3	\$46.00 No Essay \$60.00 w Essay
SAT @ another testing site	May 5	Apr 6	\$46.00 No Essay \$60.00 w Essay

What if I get stuck or have questions?

- Your school counselor stands ready to assist you.