



**Fort Lee H.S.  
Parent  
Breakfast**



# Kaplan Test Prep

is proud to partner with the Guidance Department of  
Fort Lee High School

**Jennifer Hansen**

Pre-College Program Manager  
[jennifer.hansen@Kaplan.com](mailto:jennifer.hansen@Kaplan.com)



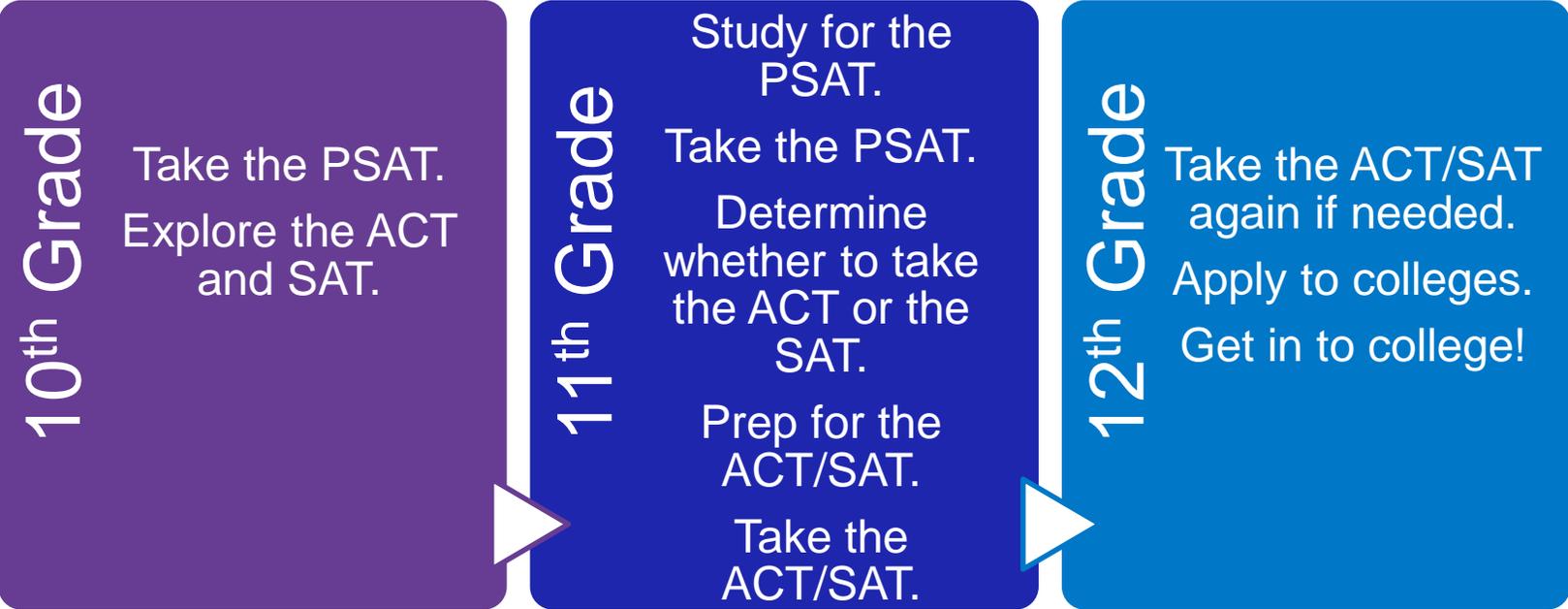
# Today's Agenda

Test Taking  
Time Line  
and PSAT  
Scores

SAT vs ACT

Next Steps

# College Admissions Test Taking Time Line.....



# PSAT Scores are Back!

## Now What?!?

### Understanding the PSAT Score Report



# What is the purpose of the PSAT.....

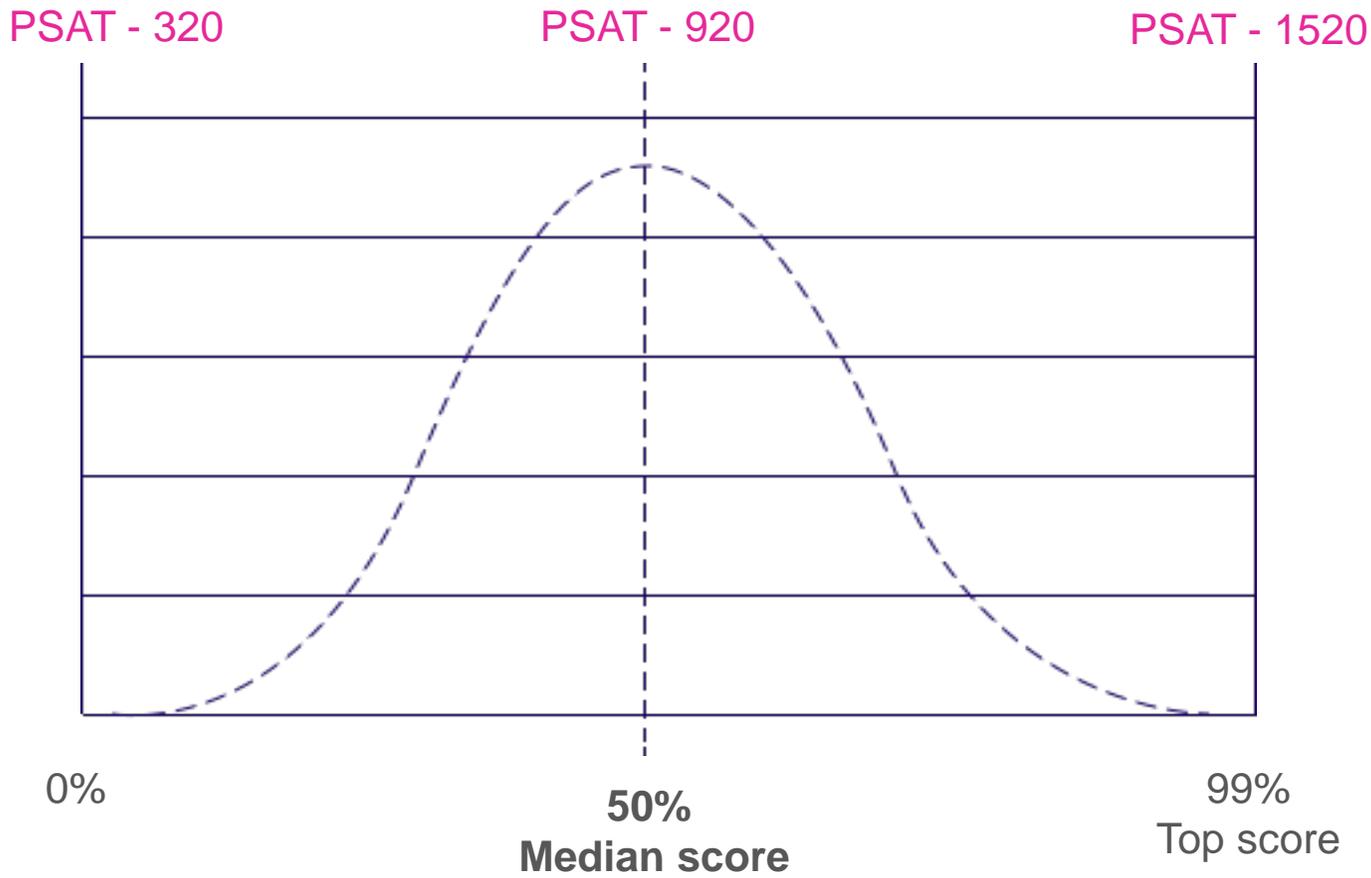
- A practice SAT
- National Merit Scholarship Qualifying Test – for juniors only
- NOT for college admissions

# PSAT Score Back Timeline.....

- October 11, 14, and 25 – PSAT 2017 Test Dates
- December 4 – PSAT Scores accessible to school counselors
- December 11-13 – PSAT scores available to students through the College Board’s electronic portal

[www.collegeboard.org](http://www.collegeboard.org)

# PSAT Score Distribution



PSAT Sections	Score Range
Evidence-Based Reading & Writing	160-760
Math	160-760



# What's a Good PSAT Score?

PSAT Sections	College & Career Readiness Benchmark for 10 <sup>th</sup> Grade	College & Career Readiness Benchmark for 11 <sup>th</sup> Grade
Evidence-Based Reading & Writing	430	460
Math	480	510

Scoring above the Benchmark gives a 75% likelihood of achieving a C or better in first year college courses.

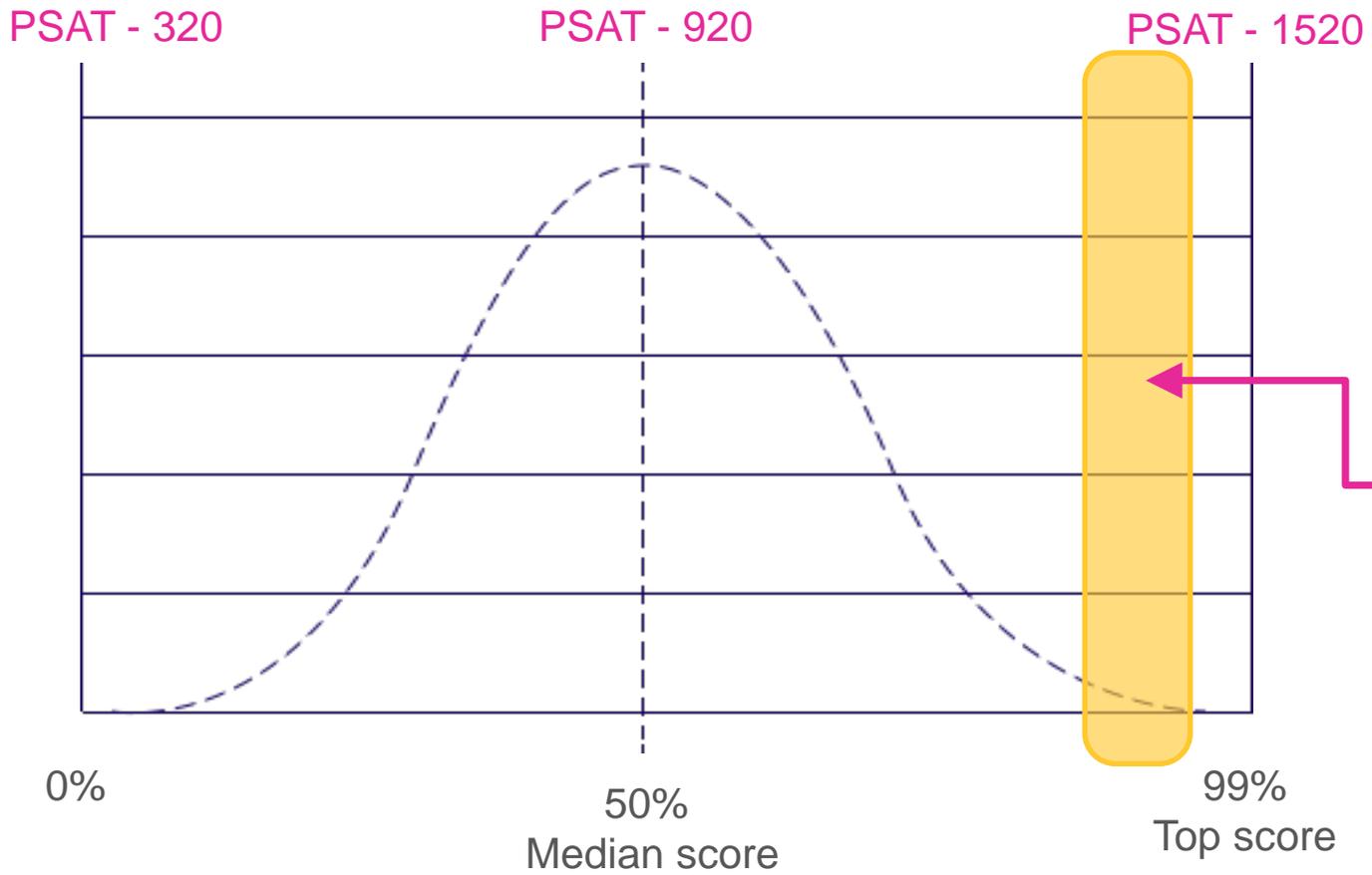


# What's a Good PSAT Score?

Percentile	10 <sup>th</sup> Grade Score	11 <sup>th</sup> Grade Score
99th	1360	1450
95th	1250	1350
90th	1180	1280
80th	1090	1180
70th	1030	1120
60th	970	1060
50th	920	1010
40th	870	960



# National Merit



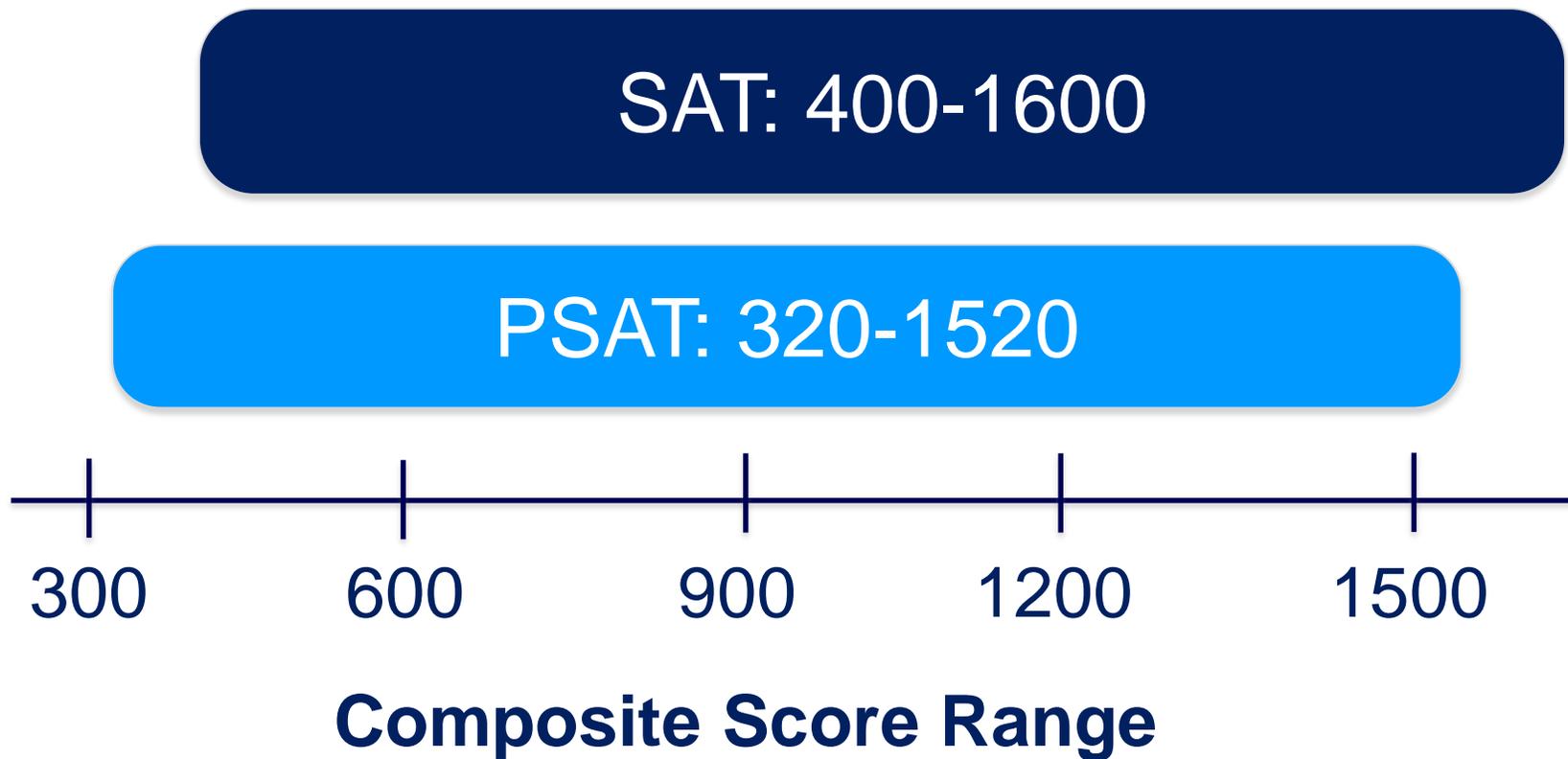
National Merit Cutoffs in 2016 ranged from 1380-1480.

ONLY juniors can be considered for National Merit.



Source: <https://collegereadiness.collegeboard.org/pdf/psat-10-understanding-scores-2017.pdf>

# PSAT Scoring vs SAT Scoring



# SAT VS ACT. Which Test is Right for me?

Choosing the  
SAT or the ACT.....



# SAT Overview



# SAT Overview

Category	Features
<b>The SAT</b>	400-1600 scoring, 3 hours without essay
 <b>Reading</b>	65 minutes, 52 questions
 <b>Writing</b>	35 minutes, 44 questions
 <b>Math</b>	25 minutes, 20 questions, no calculator
 <b>Math</b>	55 minutes, 38 questions, calculator
 <b>Essay</b>	Requires reading a passage, describing development of argument, 50 minutes long

Category	Features
 <p data-bbox="570 578 998 843"><b>Evidence-based Reading &amp; Writing Section</b></p>	<ul data-bbox="1123 462 1702 501" style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Reading and Writing combined</li></ul> <p data-bbox="1123 554 1411 586"><b><u>Reading details:</u></b></p> <ul data-bbox="1123 596 2091 762" style="list-style-type: none"><li>• No sentence completions</li><li>• Passage topics include US and World Literature, History/Social Studies, and Sciences (500 - 750 words)</li><li>• 65 minutes</li></ul> <p data-bbox="1123 819 1651 852"><b><u>Writing and Language details:</u></b></p> <ul data-bbox="1123 862 1900 943" style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Focus on extended prose (400 - 500 words)</li><li>• 35 minutes</li></ul>

Category	Features
 <b>Math Section</b>	<p><b><u>Three areas of concentrated focus:</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Problem solving and data analysis</li><li>• “The Heart of Algebra”</li><li>• “Passport to Advanced Math”</li></ul> <p>55 minutes with a Calculator 25 minutes <u>without</u> a Calculator</p>

Category	Features
 <b>Essay</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Essay is <b>optional</b></li><li>• 50 minutes</li><li>• Requires students to analyze a 650-750 word document and explain how the author builds an argument</li></ul> <p><b>3 Scores</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>✓ Reading</li><li>✓ Analysis</li><li>✓ Writing</li></ul>

# SAT Scoring Details

## Composite (Total) Score

- Sum of the two Area Scores
- Range of 400 - 1600

**Math**  
**Area Score**  
Range of 200 - 800

+

**Evidence-Based**  
**Reading + Writing**  
**Area Score**  
Range of 200 - 800

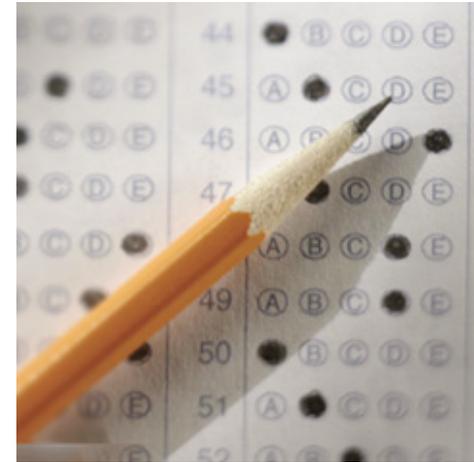
## Test Scores

- 3 scores: Math, Reading, and Writing & Language
- Range of 10 - 40

# Scoring SAT

## Understanding Scoring

- Correct Answer: +1 point
- Omitted Question: 0 points
- Incorrect Answer: 0 points



**Answer every question.  
If you don't know the answer, guess!  
You won't be penalized. Every point helps**

# SAT Subject Tests



# SAT Subject Tests

- 1-hour standardized test on individual subjects
  - Offered on same dates as standard SAT
- Some schools or programs require SAT Subject Tests for admission purposes
- Selective colleges usually require or recommend scores from at least two SAT Subject Tests



# Subject Test Overview

- Formerly known as the SAT IIs
- 20 different tests in 5 general subject areas:
  - English
  - History
  - Languages
  - Mathematics
  - Science ( Biology, Chemistry, Physics)
- One hour in length
- Up to three on one test day
- Can't be taken the same day as SAT
- Required or recommended by approximately 200 colleges; considered if sent by others

# Advanced Placement Exams

- The culmination of a students' involvement in an AP class
- Offered in the spring
- Can count towards college credit towards their degree
- Check with schools of interest to learn more about AP credit acceptance policies

# Subject Tests vs. Advance Placement Exams

- Overlap exists but.....
  - Subject Tests high school content
  - APs cover college-level content
- Senior year AP scores not in time for admission
- Can take subject test even if AP not available in your school
- In general, AP classes are great preparation for related Subject Tests

# When are these subject tests available for the 2018-2019 School Year?

Subject Tests Available	Aug 25,	Oct 6	Nov 3	Dec 1	Mar	May 4	June 1
Chemistry	○	○	○	○		○	○
Physics	○	○	○	○		○	○
Eng Lit	○	○	○	○		○	○
Math I/II	○	○	○	○		○	○
U.S. History	○	○	○	○		○	○
World History	○			○			○
Spanish	○	○		○		○	○

More Subject Test info for this school year: Visit [College Board Website](#)

# ACT Overview



Category	Features
<p data-bbox="606 354 868 411"><b>The ACT</b></p>	<p data-bbox="1149 368 2079 425">1-36 scoring, three hours without essay</p>
 <p data-bbox="690 525 919 589"><b>English</b></p>	<p data-bbox="1149 518 1564 561">45 minutes, 75 questions</p>
 <p data-bbox="690 675 835 732"><b>Math</b></p>	<p data-bbox="1149 675 1564 718">60 minutes, 60 questions</p>
 <p data-bbox="690 825 937 889"><b>Reading</b></p>	<p data-bbox="1149 832 1569 875">35 minutes, 40 questions</p>
 <p data-bbox="690 978 937 1035"><b>Science</b></p>	<p data-bbox="1149 989 1564 1032">35 minutes, 40 questions</p>
 <p data-bbox="690 1132 873 1196"><b>Essay</b></p>	<p data-bbox="1149 1096 1951 1182">Requires analysis of 3 different perspectives , 40 minutes long, optional</p>

# ACT Scoring

**English**  
Out of 36 Points

+

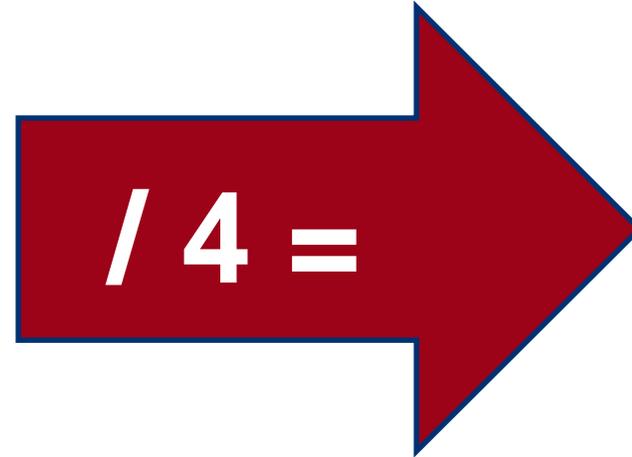
**Math**  
Out of 36 Points

+

**Reading**  
Out of 36 Points

+

**Science**  
Out of 36 Points



**Composite Score**  
Out of 36 points  
Average of the four sections  
English, Math, Reading,  
Science

(Optional) Essay Score  
-Score between 2-12  
-Average of four domain scores

# Similarities Between the Tests

## SAT & ACT

Both used for college admissions

Used for scholarships + merit-based grants

Can retake several times

Colleges accept both

Typically taken Spring of junior year + Fall of senior year

Approx three to four hours long

Optional essay

No wrong answer penalty

SAT/ACT Which Test is right for me?

# SAT and ACT: Notable Differences

	SAT	ACT
<b>Reading</b>	More Social Studies Reading	More Science Reading
<b>Math</b>	More data analysis	More geometry
	No calculator section	Calculator use allowed
<b>Scoring</b>	50% math, 50% verbal	25% math, 50% verbal 25% science

**The best way to know is to take a practice test!**

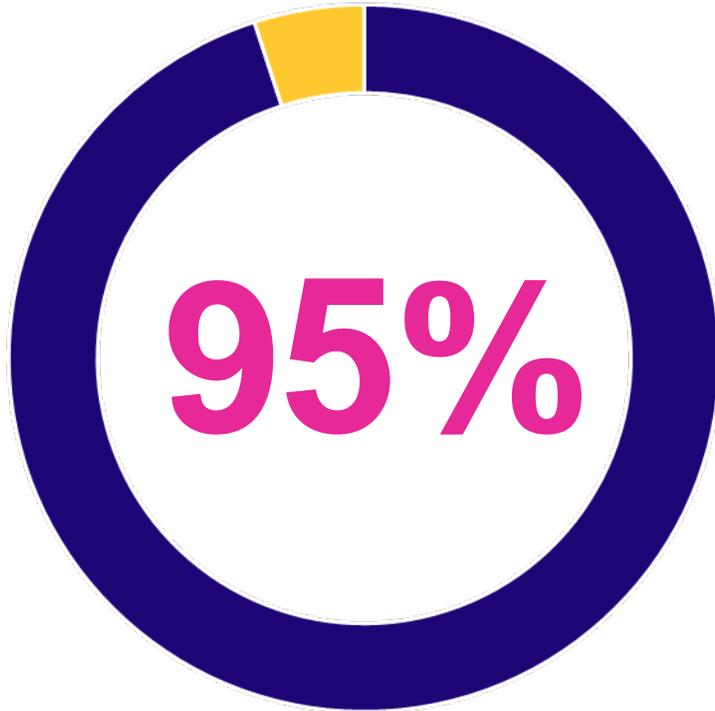
ACT?

SAT?

What's the Difference?

# Test Scores in College Admissions

95% of college admissions advisors are **confident** that the **SAT and ACT** are **effective tools** in measuring students' future success at their schools.



Now is the time to make a  
**Test Prep Plan To Get a**  
Higher Score



# Get a Higher Score – Succeed



**Get the results you want.**

**9 out of 10** Kaplan students get into one or more of their top choice colleges\*.

\*9 out of 10 claim based on thousands of responses each year to an annual survey about Kaplan students who were admitted to college as of May 2012, May 2013, May 2014, May 2015, and May 2016. Prior results are not a guarantee of admission outcomes for future students or for any individual student.

# Get a Higher Score – Your Way

## ACT or SAT PREP

### Prep

Prepare with an expert teacher in a structured, interactive classroom either online or in person.  
**Starting at \$899**



### Self-Paced

Prep at your speed on your schedule with the best prep resources available.  
**Starting at \$499**



### Unlimited Prep

Take and retake any of our PSAT, SAT, and ACT prep courses until December of your senior year.  
**\$1599**



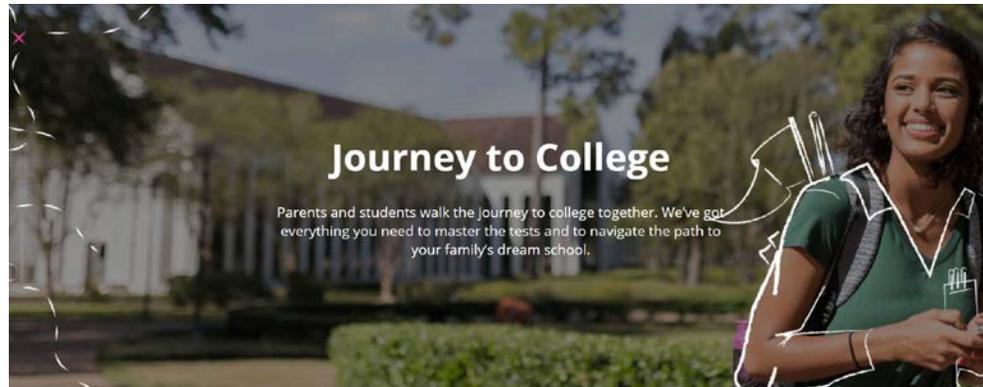
### Private Tutoring

Work one-on-one with a top tutor at home or online – and get a prep course included at no additional cost.  
**Starting at \$2599**



# Continue the Journey to College with Us

## Upcoming Free Events



**Feb 11-14: ACT Free Prep Week**

**Coming Soon: AP Review Weekend**

<https://www.kaptest.com/college-prep/journey-to-college>

Thank You!

**THANK YOU FOR COMING.  
GOOD LUCK WITH YOUR PREP and  
Happy Testing!**

Jennifer Hansen- Pre-College Program Manager

[jennifer.hansen@kaplan.com](mailto:jennifer.hansen@kaplan.com)

Visit us at [kaptest.com/college-prep](https://kaptest.com/college-prep) or

Call us at 1-800-KAPTEST.

