Testing Information

Either the SAT or ACT may be required for admission to colleges and universities in the U.S. Please check out the institution's web site to find out which test you need to take.

Some universities have a *minimum* SAT or ACT score required for admission. Your highest score is used for admission. Some colleges will consider your superscore.

In addition, many scholarships consider the SAT or ACT when determining awards. Keep in mind that you should have taken and received your test scores prior to applying for these scholarships.

SAT & ACT fee waivers are available from your Counselor. For more information on fee waiver eligibility, visit https://collegereadiness.collegeboard.org/pdf/sat-fee-waiver-student-brochure.pdf
or https://www.act.org/content/dam/act/unsecured/documents/FeeWaiver.pdf

Tests explained

SAT: The SAT is an entrance exam used by most colleges and universities to make admissions decisions. Each section of the SAT is scored on a 200 to 800 point scale. Your total SAT score is the sum of your section scores. If you take the Essay, you will receive a separate score. Bartlett High School provides a free SAT test to all students in the Spring of Junior Year. The SAT School Day is required by the Illinois State Board of Education as part of graduation requirements.

SAT National Test Dates and Registration

ACT: Like the SAT, the ACT is also an entrance exam used by most colleges and universities to make admissions decisions. Each section of the ACT is scored on a 1 to 36 point scale. Your composite ACT score is the average of your four section scores, also on a scale from 1 to 36. If you take the ACT with Writing Test, you will receive a separate score on the Writing Test.

ACT National Test Dates and Registration

SAT Basics	
SAT Length	3 hours (plus 50 minutes if taking optional Essay)
SAT Sections	 Math Evidence-Based Reading and Writing Essay (optional)
SAT Cost	\$46 (\$60 if taking SAT with Essay)
Highest SAT Score	1600
Average SAT Score	1060

ACT Basics	
ACT Length	2 hrs, 55 minutes (plus 40 minutes if taking ACT with writing)
ACT Sections	EnglishMathReadingScienceWriting (optional)
Cost	US without Writing: \$50.50 USD US with Writing: \$67.00 USD Non-US without Writing: \$150.00 USD Non-US with Writing: \$166.50 USD
Max. Score	36
Avg. Score	21

Test Optional Schools

In recent years, an increasing number of colleges and universities have chosen to go "test optional", meaning they will allow students to submit their application without submitting ACT or SAT. This allows students to highlight other parts of their application that showcase their strengths.

Additionally, COVID-19 impact has prompted even more colleges to implement test-optional policies. For a complete list of colleges and universities that provide this option, visit:

https://www.fairtest.org/university/optional

Advanced Placement (AP)

Use this website to search for any college or universities' policies in accepting AP exam scores for credit or advancement: https://apstudents.collegeboard.org/getting-credit-placement/search-policies