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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.

5

English Learner Support

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

2

Scholarships

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

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.

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.

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.

4

More Opportunity

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

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 the entire math test	✓	✗
Optional writing test	✓	✗
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	✓	✓
Access to English learner supports for weekend test dates	✓	✗
You get a STEM score	✓	✗
Subject scores are balanced	✓	✗
Testing time	2 hours 55 minutes + 40-minute essay (optional)	3 hours
Structure	4 tests + optional writing test	3 tests
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

*Based on publicly released SAT information.