

Getting ready for your trip

Knowing where you're going on the road to college is the key to a successful trip. From test prep to admission tips, here's the expert advice you need to get started on your journey and stay in the know along the way.

Let's talk about the SAT and ACT.

These two exams are the best-known and most-dreaded parts of the college application. Don't sweat it. Nearly every school accepts either the SAT or the ACT for admission, which means you can take the test that's best for you. Here's how they compare.

	SAT	ACT
Test Structure	3 tests: • Reading • Writing and Language • Math Essay (Optional)	4 tests: • English • Math • Reading • Science Essay (Optional)
Length	3 hours (without essay) 3 hours, 50 minutes (with essay)*	2 hours, 55 minutes (without essay) 3 hours, 35 minutes (with essay)*
Reading	5 reading passages	4 reading passages
Science	None	1 science section testing your critical thinking skills (not your specific science knowledge)
Math	Arithmetic, Algebra I & II, Geometry, Trigonometry and Data Analysis	Arithmetic, Algebra I & II, Geometry and Trigonometry
Tools	You cannot use a calculator on 1 out of 2 math sections.	You can use a calculator on the math section.
Essays	Optional. The essay will test your comprehension of a provided source text.	Optional. The essay will test how well you evaluate and analyze complex issues.
Scoring	Scored on a scale of 400-1600	Scored on a scale of 1-36
For more information visit	PrincetonReview.com/SAT	PrincetonReview.com/ACT

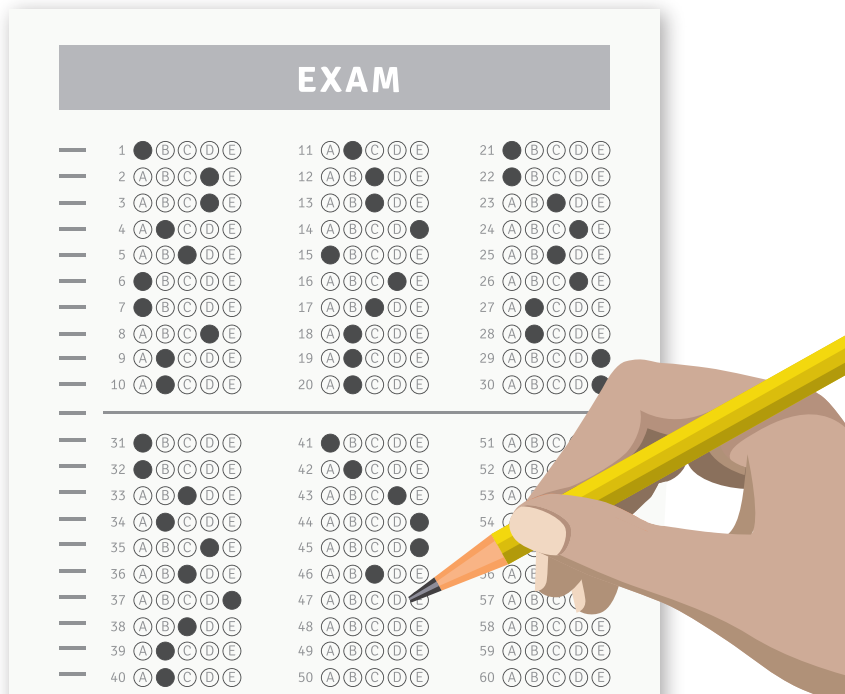
*The essays are optional, but many schools may require them. We recommend writing the essays so you will be covered no matter what.

How do you know if the ACT or SAT is right for you?

Take a FREE practice test for the ACT or SAT!

You'll get realistic experience and an idea of how you'll score on each one. To find a free practice test near you, visit

PrincetonReview.com/FreePracticeTests.



Getting in takes more than just your score...

The Princeton Review's tools will help you get everything you need for an amazing application.

- Great grades with **Homework Help Powered by Tutor.com**
Algebra or World History getting you down? Get 24/7 help from an expert tutor in more than 40 subjects with our online, on-demand Homework Help. Get started at PrincetonReview.com/HomeworkHelp.
- Top scores with **Test Prep**
Get ready for the PSAT, ACT and SAT with content review, test-taking strategy and practice. Better scores are guaranteed.†
- A strong application with **Admission Counseling**
Apply to the right schools, find scholarships and get help with your essays. Our coaches and counselors will help you polish your application and put your best foot forward. Get started at PrincetonReview.com/Admissions.



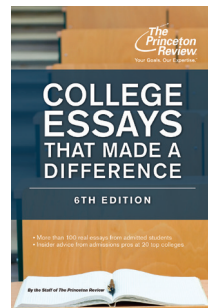
Know more about where you want to go.

There's more to know about schools than just what it takes to get accepted. In our book *The Best 381 Colleges*, you'll find information and rankings about the things that you, as a student, care about. We survey thousands of students to get their opinions and help rank things like Best Campus Food, Best Career Services, LGBTQ-friendly Campuses, Happiest Students and more!

You can check out more of our rankings at PrincetonReview.com/Best381.

Recommended Reading

What's a road trip without some good books to read?



College Essays That Made A Difference

Check out more than 100 college essays written by applicants to top schools and get a little inspiration for your own college essay. You'll also get tips and advice on avoiding common grammatical errors and a Q&A with admissions pros.



Colleges That Pay You Back

Find out which colleges and universities give you the biggest bang for your buck. This guide will help you explore which schools give their students the biggest return on their investment with a great post-college outcome.

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The Princeton Review Will get you there.

The road to college is long.

YOUR COLLEGE ROADMAP

Applying to college: early decision vs. early action

Deciding when and where to apply to college may seem like a daunting task, but it shouldn't be. With the right info, you can cut down on stress and enjoy this exciting time in your life.

Early decision vs. early action

If you want to apply early, you have two options: early decision and early action. They'll both get you a decision early in the year, but they are very different options.

Early decision is binding. You can only apply to one school, and if you're admitted you MUST attend that school. You cannot submit an early decision application and an early action or regular admission application at the same time.

Early action is not binding, so you can apply to multiple schools. This means you can compare financial aid packages from the schools you're accepted to, an advantage you don't have with early decision.

Both early decision and early action often have deadlines in November, but it's always smart to check with the schools of your dreams and make sure you have the most up-to-date information.



The cost of college

Affording college is a major concern for many students and their families. In The Princeton Review's College Hopes and Worries survey, debt has been the biggest concern among respondents (parents and students alike) for the past three years. **Nearly 40% said "level of debt...to pay for the degree" was their biggest concern about college.**††

That said, you shouldn't let the price tag dissuade you from applying to your top-choice college. Schools often have significant aid available—you just need to know where to look and how to apply.

For more info, check out our college finance page at PrincetonReview.com/CollegeFinance.



Where will your scores take you?

There are a lot of colleges out there. Want to see where your ACT and SAT scores could take you? Check it out!

Institution Name	New SAT *	ACT**	Admit Rate
Columbia University	1590	34	7%
Cornell College	1350	29	71%
Drew University	1310	29	70%
Howard University	1290	27	48%
Loyola Marymount University	1380	30	51%
Oberlin College	1500	32	33%
United States Military Academy	1450	31	10%
University of Dallas	1380	30	83%
University of New Hampshire	1280	27	79%
University of New Mexico	1270	25	50%
Washington State University	1220	26	80%
Wesleyan College	1220	25	42%

†† 2016 College Hopes and Worries survey. For more information and details on survey methodology, visit <http://www.princetonreview.com/college-hopes-worries>. SAT and ACT scores are provided by the schools featured. These scores are representative of the 75th percentile who enrolled in the college. Students within a wide range of scores have received admissions to these schools based on their entire application package. Contact the school for more specific information. *SAT scores are reported in the new SAT scoring based on the College Board concordance charts published on 5/9/2016. **ACT scores are self-reported Fall 2015 score data from schools featured.

The Princeton Review Can Help You Reach Your Goals

For more than 30 years, students and their families have trusted The Princeton Review to help them get into their dream schools. We help students succeed in high school and beyond by giving them resources for better grades, better test scores and stronger college applications. Our proven methodology gives you test-taking strategies and a guaranteed better score.†

With a range of options, including one-on-one private tutoring, semi-private and traditional classes, and online prep, The Princeton Review offers the flexibility to fit your schedule and learning style.

- Test Prep Courses
- Private Tutoring
- On-Demand Homework Help
- Admission Counseling
- Best Fit College or Grad School

Visit PrincetonReview.com or call **800-2Review (800-273-8439)** to learn more or to find a course.

†Restrictions apply. Visit PrincetonReview.com/Guarantee for details. National Merit is a registered trademark of National Merit Scholarship Corporation, which is not affiliated with The Princeton Review. FAFSA is a trademark of the U.S. Department of Education, which is not affiliated with The Princeton Review. Test names are the registered trademarks of their respective owners, who are not affiliated with The Princeton Review. The Princeton Review is not affiliated with Princeton University. PRHSOTH1605_43

The Roadmap to College

Freshman

The Starting Line
Challenge yourself academically and aim for high grades. Build your vocabulary by reading books or the news.

Extracurriculars (AKA, the Fun Stuff!)
Pick a few activities that you like and plan to stick with them until graduation.

Sophomore

Set Yourself up for SAT Subject Tests™ Success
Sit for these exams immediately after you've taken the related courses at school, while the material is still fresh in your mind. For more information, visit PrincetonReview.com/SubjectTests.

Book a Few Weeks for Your Prep
The best time to prep for the ACT and SAT is during the summer between sophomore and junior year.

Junior

Shoot for National Merit® Scholar Status
Along with grades and recommendations from your teachers, you'll need to earn a high PSAT® score your junior year to be in the running. Prepping for the PSAT will help you get the score you need.

Search for Scholarships and More
With the cost of higher education soaring, many more students are in need of financial aid. Cast a wide net in your search for grants and scholarships. PrincetonReview.com/CollegeFinance is an excellent place to begin your search.

Fund Your Education With FAFSA®
The Free Application for Federal Student Aid opens on October 1. The FAFSA is available by calling 1-800-4-FED-AID or visiting FAFSA.ed.gov. Visit PrincetonReview.com/FAFSA for more information.

Show Who You Are With Your College Essay

Stay on Top of Your Grades
Boost your GPA with online, on-demand tutoring with Homework Help. Visit PrincetonReview.com/HomeworkHelp to learn more.

Senior

Last Stop for the SAT and ACT
The fall of senior year is your last chance to take the SAT or ACT. Application deadlines are in the winter, so make sure you leave time to get your test scores back.

It's Time to Apply
Many schools accept the Common App, which is a single application that can be used for multiple schools. For schools with rolling admission, the earlier you apply, the more spaces are available.

Decide if You Want to Apply Early Decision
If you're confident that you have found the school for you, consider applying early. A successful bid means your anxiety will dissipate by mid-December.

Tackle the SAT® and ACT®
If you haven't taken the tests yet, now's the time. Take the tests once you've prepped and get them done before the end of junior year. Check out all of the upcoming test dates at PrincetonReview.com/TestDates.

Stay Strong Until the End
Don't get neurotic, but stay on top of things. Let your recommenders know your deadlines and make sure you've given your counselor everything he or she needs to send along with your transcripts. Work with a former admission officer with our College Admission Counseling service! Learn more at PrincetonReview.com/Admissions.

Find Your Dream School
It's time to think about what you're looking for in a prospective college. Pick up a copy of *The Princeton Review's The Best 381 Colleges* or use the interactive college search tool on PrincetonReview.com/CollegeSearch.

Take a School-Visit Side Trip

The Moment of Truth
You've camped out by the mailbox for weeks and finally have several of those coveted acceptance letters in hand! It's important to compare aid packages when choosing a school. If you need help, check out PrincetonReview.com/CollegeFinance. Be sure to let the colleges know right away of any changes to your family's income, such as a parent making a job or career change—it could affect your aid package.

At Long Last, You've Decided Where You'll Be Going to College. Congrats!

Return your signed acceptance letter and student/parent loan applications to your college. You'll also probably need to pay a deposit now. Don't forget to thank your recommenders and tell them what college you'll be attending.



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Need help creating your own roadmap to college?
Text Roadmap to 877-877 for a FREE consultation with one of our experts.