



# **SAT AND ACT INFORMATION 2022!**

# Why take these tests?

- ▶ Most four year colleges require that students applying take either the SAT or ACT as part of the admissions process – some colleges are test optional; it is your responsibility to contact admissions offices if you are unsure
- ▶ While two year schools do not require SAT/ACT scores, if you are interested in more selective programs like nursing, or plan to transfer to a four-year university, you may end up needing SAT or ACT scores
- ▶ At some community colleges students who achieve certain SAT or ACT scores may be exempt from taking placement tests in reading, writing, or math
- ▶ No matter what path you end up taking, it is a good idea to take one or both of these exams if college is in your future

# Which one should I take?

The best way to decide which test is right for you is to take a timed full-length practice test in each; since the content and style of the SAT and ACT are very similar, factors like how you handle time pressure and what types of questions you find most challenging can help you determine which test is a better fit

For example: the pace of the SAT gives you a bit more time to think through problems, while the ACT can be more of a time crunch



# When should I take these tests?

- ▶ We recommend that you take one or both of these exams in the spring of your junior year (April, May, June) – that being said, it is your personal decision as to when you first take them
- ▶ Many times students decide to re-take exams in the fall of their senior year to try to improve their scores. The benefit of this would be if you are applying to colleges that “super score” meaning that they take the highest combination of scores from the different test administrations



# How do I sign up?

- ▶ Registration for both tests can be completed online
  - ▶ SAT: [www.collegeboard.org](http://www.collegeboard.org)
  - ▶ ACT: [www.act.org](http://www.act.org)
  - ✓ You will be prompted to create an account for each test (username, password)
  - ✓ Desktop or laptop is recommended, not mobile device or tablet
  - ✓ High school course details
  - ✓ Credit card or other form of payment
  - ✓ Headshot photo – now or any time before photo deadline
  - ✓ Give yourself time, you will need around 30 minutes to complete everything
  - ✓ **PAY ATTENTION TO DEADLINES! THERE IS NO REASON TO PAY LATE FEES!**
  - ✓ Fee waivers are available for those who qualify, see your counselor

# What about the extra writing portion – do I take it??

The simple answer is it depends on what college(s) you are applying to – in general, more selective schools expect you to submit a writing score, while less selective ones do not

If you are unsure, it is always best to reference the colleges undergraduate admissions website, or better yet, give them a call!

**\*\*please note that there is an additional fee for each exam to take the writing portion\*\***



## Some helpful hints...

- ▶ It is **VERY** important to indicate that you want your scores sent to Hannibal High School so they can be added to your transcript
- ▶ We strongly encourage you to utilize the ACT and SAT websites for test prep and to answer any questions you may have – they have a wealth of information!
- ▶ A limited number of fee waivers are available
- ▶ If you need help, see your counselor
- ▶ **DO NOT PROCRASTINATE!**

# College Planning Checklist

- ▶ Keep your grades up
- ▶ Continue to take and plan challenging courses
- ▶ Get involved!
- ▶ Start researching colleges that interest you and make a list
- ▶ Plan to visit campuses
- ▶ Volunteer for activities/clubs related to career interest; set up job shadow opportunities
- ▶ TALK TO YOUR PARENTS/GUARDIANS!
- ▶ Meet with your counselor
- ▶ And of course – register for SAT/ACT exams