

PSAT/SAT/ACT Comparison

PSAT	SAT	ACT
1520 point scale	1600 point scale	36 point scale
2 hours & 45 minutes	3 hours (plus 50 min. optional essay)	2 hours & 55 minutes (plus 40 min. optional essay)
4 sections: Reading, Writing & Language, Math (no calculator), & Math (calculator)	5 sections: Reading, Writing & Language, Math (no calculator), Math (calculator), & Essay	5 sections: English, Math, Reading, Science, & Essay
slower pace: more time per question	slower pace: more time per question	faster pace: less time per question
no penalty for wrong answers: answer every question!	no penalty for wrong answers: answer every question!	no penalty for wrong answers: answer every question!
no essay	essay optional* last section; 50 min.	essay optional* last section; 40 min.
N/A	essay: analyze an argument	essay: compare and contrast 3 different viewpoints
no science section, but science emphasized on verbal sections	no science section, but science emphasized on verbal sections	science section
advanced algebra and higher-level math	advanced algebra and higher-level math	algebra and higher-level math
vocabulary-in-context questions	vocabulary-in-context questions	one or two vocabulary-in-context questions

Not sure which test to take or when to take them? MTAT offers free SAT and ACT practice tests with immediate scoring and feedback. Call our office for a free consultation from one of our test experts. We'll be happy to answer your questions and help you create a plan.

Nervous about recent changes to the tests? MTAT offers free and unlimited return privileges for our courses allowing students to keep preparing at no additional cost. Our courses and curriculum will quickly respond to any changes and help you prepare accordingly.

*Many universities require the essay for admission. Read your prospective colleges' requirements carefully.

SAT/ACT Score Conversion Chart

SAT	ACT
1600	36
1590	35
1580	35
1570	35
1560	35
1550	34
1540	34
1530	34
1520	34
1510	33
1500	33
1490	33
1480	32
1470	32
1460	32
1450	32
1440	31
1430	31
1420	31
1410	30
1400	30
1390	30
1380	29
1370	29
1360	29
1350	29
1340	28

SAT	ACT
1330	28
1320	28
1310	28
1300	27
1290	27
1280	27
1270	26
1260	26
1250	26
1240	26
1230	25
1220	25
1210	25
1200	25
1190	24
1180	24
1170	24
1160	24
1150	23
1140	23
1130	23
1120	22
1110	22
1100	22
1090	21
1080	21
1070	21

SAT	ACT
1060	21
1050	20
1040	20
1030	20
1020	20
1010	19
1000	19
990	19
980	19
970	18
960	18
950	18
940	18
930	17
920	17
910	17
900	17
890	16
880	16
870	16
860	16
850	15
840	15
830	15
820	15
810	15
800	14

SAT	ACT
790	14
780	14
770	14
760	14
750	13
740	13
730	13
720	13
710	12
700	12
690	12
680	12
670	12
660	12
650	12
640	12
630	12
620	11
610	11
600	11
590	11
580	11
570	11
560	11