

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, & Writing
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.	Writing Test optional* last section; 40 min.
N/A	essay: analyze an argument	Writing Test: 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	36
1580	36
1570	36
1560	35
1550	35
1540	35
1530	35
1520	34
1510	34
1500	34
1490	34
1480	33
1470	33
1460	33
1450	33
1440	32
1430	32
1420	32
1410	31
1400	31
1390	31
1380	30
1370	30
1360	30
1350	29
1340	29

SAT	ACT
1330	29
1320	28
1310	28
1300	28
1290	27
1280	27
1270	27
1260	27
1250	26
1240	26
1230	26
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	19
1010	19
1000	19
990	19
980	18
970	18
960	18
950	17
940	17
930	17
920	17
910	16
900	16
890	16
880	16
870	15
860	15
850	15
840	15
830	15
820	14
810	14
800	14

SAT	ACT
790	14
780	14
770	13
760	13
750	13
740	13
730	13
720	12
710	12
700	12
690	12
680	11
670	11
660	11
650	11
640	10
630	10
620	10
610	9
600	9
590	9