

Test Prep Planning

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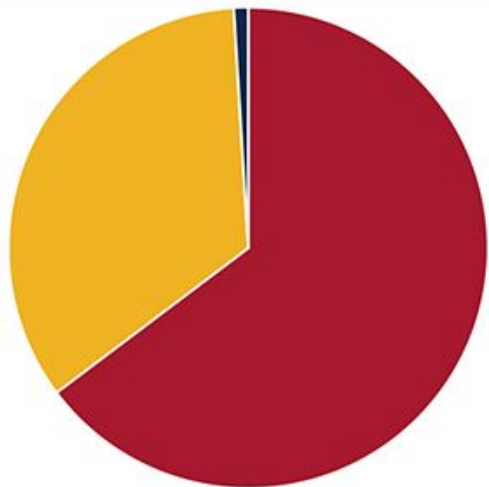
Why take the tests at all?

More competitive application

Merit aid

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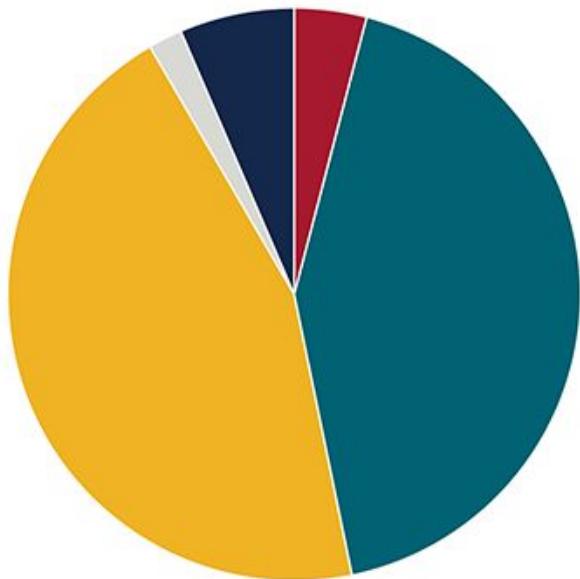
Pre-Covid Policies



Testing Policy	#	%
SAT/ACT Required	268	64.7%
Test Optional	142	34.3%
Test Flexible	4	1.0%

Why take the tests at all?

Post-Covid Policies



Testing Policy	#	%
SAT/ACT Required	17	4.1%
Test Optional-temporary	178	42.7%
Test Optional-permanent	187	44.8%
Test Free-temporary	8	1.9%
Test Free-permanent	27	6.5%

	Score Submit Rate	Admit Rate with Scores	Admit Rate without Scores	Ratio of Admit Rates
Amherst College (2022)	51%	9.1%	4.7%	1.9x
Barnard College (2022 Early)	43%	34.4%	24.9%	1.4x
Boston College (2022)	43%	25.7%	9.6%	2.7x
Boston University (2021)	42%	25.0%	14.0%	1.8x
Colgate University (2022)	41%	19.2%	7.5%	2.6x
Davidson College (2021)	50%	22.6%	11.3%	2.0x
Emory University (2022 Early)	48%	20.3%	7.7%	2.6x
Fordham University (2022)	35%	65.1%	46.5%	1.4x
Georgetown University (2021)	81%	7.5%	3.9%	1.9x
Georgia Institute of Technology (2021)	63%	22.1%	10.0%	2.2x
Notre Dame University (2022)	50%	17.3%	8.5%	2.0x
Tufts University (2022)	50%	10.8%	7.2%	1.5x
University of Georgia (2021)	50%	46.0%	31.9%	1.4x
University of Pennsylvania (2021 Early)	61%	7.0%	4.0%	1.8x
University of Southern California (2021)	49%	13.9%	10.9%	1.3x
University of Virginia (2021)	58%	26.0%	14.0%	1.9x
Vanderbilt University (2021)	56%	7.3%	6.0%	1.2x
Wellesley College (2022)	45%	17.3%	9.5%	1.8x

Automatic Merit Scholarships University of Oklahoma

Scholarship	Award Amount	Qualifications
National Merit Finalist	\$71,100	National Merit Finalist
National Merit Semifinalist	\$16,000 (\$4,000 x 4 years)	Be named a National Merit Semifinalist and have a 3.5 GPA. Students who advance to Finalist standing and name OU as their college choice by April 30 are eligible to be upgraded to the National Merit Finalist package.
Oklahoma State Regents' Academic Scholars Program	\$50,600	ACT/SAT scores in top one half of one percent for OK residents.
Award of Excellence	\$16,000 (\$4,000 x 4 years)	31 ACT or 1390 SAT (or greater) and 3.5 GPA or top 10% class rank
Distinguished Scholar	\$12,000 (\$3,000 x 4 years)	29-30 ACT or 1330-1380 SAT and 3.5 GPA or top 10% class rank
University Scholarship	\$10,000 (\$2,500 x 4 years)	28 ACT or 1300-1320 SAT and 3.5 GPA or top 10% class rank
Academic Achievement	\$8,000 (\$2,000 x 4 years)	24-27 ACT or 1160-1290 SAT and 3.25 GPA or top 10% class rank

Automatic Merit Scholarships University of Alabama

2023 Out-of-State Freshman Automatic Merit Scholarships

Scholarship	Test Score	GPA	Yearly Value
Presidential	32-36 ACT or 1420-1600 SAT	3.50+	\$28,000
UA Scholar	30-31 ACT or 1360-1410 SAT	3.50+	\$24,000
Foundation in Excellence	29 ACT or 1330-1350 SAT	3.50+	\$15,000
Foundation in Excellence	30-36 ACT or 1360-1600 SAT	3.00-3.49	\$15,000
Collegiate	28 ACT or 1300-1320 SAT	3.50+	\$10,000
Capstone	27 ACT or 1260-1290 SAT	3.50+	\$8,000
Capstone	28-29 ACT or 1300-1350 SAT	3.00-3.49	\$8,000
Crimson Legends	25-26 ACT or 1200-1250 SAT	3.50+	\$6,000
Crimson Legends	27 ACT or 1260-1290 SAT	3.00-3.49	\$6,000

How to Prepare

- **Take a practice SAT or ACT, or both to decide which is preferred**
 - Both count for admissions and scholarships equally
 - Rath Education Group offers College Aid Pro students complimentary practice exams and score consultations
- **Set a goal score**
 - Based on scholarship requirements
- **Choose a test date:**
 - ACT: Feb, Apr, Jun, Jul, Sep, Nov, Dec
 - SAT: Mar, May, Jun, Aug, Oct, Nov, Dec

How to Prepare

- **Start prep at least three months before the chosen test date between 3-6 months is typical depending on a student's starting score and goal score**
- **Set a regular study schedule - including homework sessions**
- **Be consistent and treat it like training for a race or a performance - it's not only about mastering the content, but mastering accuracy in a timed environment**
- **Three stages of test prep: mastering content, apply the strategies, then doing so with precision and on pace**

of Attempts

Most students will take it at least twice

Since these tests are performances rather than knowledge assessments, some students can experience nervousness or fatigue on their first test, even if they're scoring nearly perfect on practice exams.

It's rare to take it more than three times - there's only so much on the tests

Plan for three test dates to account for random events (illness, etc.)

Should I Take Both the SAT and ACT?

The short answer: Do not study for both or switch

They're equally accepted, and test roughly 95% of the same concepts in roughly the same format

Try both before choosing, then stay with the same test from then on

Jumping from one test back to the other isn't worth it - switching tests won't save you

Personally, currently, I prefer the ACT since it's been more consistent

What about the Digital SAT

Currently in place for test takers outside of the US

Will start March 2024 for US based students

Scores from the paper and digital SAT will be on the same scale, and students are allowed to combine paper and digital subsections to super score

Reading section changes

How science is incorporated

Improved user experience

Is Test Optional Really Optional?

Yes, if a school is Test Blind

No, if a school requires an ACT or SAT exam, or is Test Optional and Top 100

Yes, if a school is Test Optional and admits more than 50% of applicants

Exception: test scores can still affect merit aid

Questions?

Looking for a practice test or sample schedule?

Contact Rath Education Group

www.ratheg.com/contact

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