



TEST PREPARATION

Most colleges, including military academies, will require entrance exams. It is important to know which test is required for each institution you are considering, as well as when the tests are administered, how many times you can take the test, what is the minimum score needed for admission, and which scores are decisions based on (ie the most recent or the highest overall).

Did you know you can practice for these tests? Many high schools offer courses students can take as an elective or through an afterschool program. There are also online courses and study books with practice tests that can be used at home. Whichever method you choose, it is important to practice for the test.

TESTS

PSAT/NMQAT (Preliminary Scholastic Aptitude Test/National Merit Qualifying Assessment Test)

This test scored on a scale of 20 -80 and is typically taken in the junior year, though it can be taken sooner. The PSAT/NMQAT consists of 2 reading, 2 math and 1 writing section. It is good practice for the SAT and scores from the junior year are used to qualify students for the National Merit Scholarship Program. For more information, visit <http://www.collegeboard.com/student/testing/psat/about.html>

SAT

The SAT consists of reading, math, and writing. The scores for each section range from 200-800, with a perfect score being 2400. The SAT is often taken more than once, usually during the junior and senior year. For more information visit <http://sat.collegeboard.org/about-tests> . For practice tests visit <http://sat.collegeboard.org/practice/sat-practice-questions> .

SAT II/Subject Tests

The subject tests show mastery of a particular subject. Tests are offered in five areas: English, History, Math, Science, and Foreign Language and scored on an 800 point scale. Some colleges use these exams to determine course placement, while others do not require them at all. Be sure to check with your counselor or college advisor to determine which test, if any, you should take. For more information visit <http://sat.collegeboard.org/practice/sat-subject-test-preparation> .

ACT

The ACT is scored on a scale of 0-36 and is usually taken in the spring of the junior year or fall of the senior year. It includes sections on English, reading, math and science. The ACT Plus test includes a writing section. For more information, visit <http://www.actstudent.org>



ASVAB (Armed Services Vocational Aptitude Battery)

Developed and maintained by the Department of Defense, the ASVAB is used to determine enlistment eligibility and assign applicants to military jobs. It is also offered to high school students as a Career Exploration program. It can be taken in the 10th, 11th or 12th grade. This test consists of 9 sections: General Science, Arithmetic Reasoning, Word Knowledge, Paragraph Comprehension, Mathematics Knowledge, Electronics Information, Auto and Shop Information, Mechanical Comprehension and Assembling Objects. If students are interested in this test, they should speak to their counselor or military recruiter. Students who take the test are not required to enlist in the military. For more information visit <http://official-asvab.com/>.

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Eknowledge: FREE PowerPrep™ v6.0 is the 120 interactive, multimedia video lessons for military. <http://eknowledge.com/military.asp>

Tutor.com: Free 24/7 online tutoring for students in Army, Navy, Air Force, Marines, National Guard and Reserve families. Tutors are and available to help in more than 16 subjects, including test prep, proofreading, Math, Science, English and Social Studies. <http://www.tutor.com/MILITARY>

College Board: The College Board website offers free sample SAT questions, a full sample test, as well as an online course and study guide. <http://sat.collegeboard.org/practice/sat-subject-test-preparation>

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