

Creating a Test Timeline

The How, When, and Why of Scheduling Standardized Tests

How many times should you take each test?

Some things to consider:

- What do colleges require you to submit?
- What score are you aiming for?
- What is your budget?

*It is recommended that you take the SAT and/or ACT 2-3 times, and definitely no more than 4

What do colleges require you to submit?

Most colleges require at least one set of ACT/SAT test scores

Some (mostly private universities) will require SAT subject tests

When you submit your test scores, you can choose which scores to submit

Some colleges will require you to send all of your scores, and they may consider all or take a superscore

What score are you aiming for?

Look at the student profiles of the universities you are considering and find the score ranges of the admitted students - you want to be in or above this range*

Consider the minimum requirements for Bright Futures**:

Requirements for 2020-2021 Graduates

SCHOLARSHIP	WEIGHTED GPA MINIMUM	ACT MINIMUM	SAT MINIMUM	SERVICE HOURS
FAS	3.50	29	1330	100 hours
FMS	3.00	25	1210	75 hours

What can you budget?

All of our mentees qualify for 2 SAT fee waivers, 2 SAT Subject Test fee waivers, and 2 ACT fee waivers which they can pick up from their guidance counselor

- Cost of SAT: \$68 with essay
- Cost of ACT: \$70 with essay
- Cost of SAT Subject Test: \$26 + \$20 for each additional test in one sitting (up to 3 tests total)

More information [here](#) and [here](#)

When should I take these tests?

Is your school automatically signing your class up for any tests?

By when do you need to submit these scores?

Recommendations:

- Take one of each main test in the spring
- Retake the test you feel strongest about, if necessary, in the summer
- Take the test a third time, if necessary, in the fall BEFORE your applications are due

SAT

August

October

November

December

March

May

June

ACT

September

October

December

February

April

June

July