

## LEARN ABOUT TEST-OPTIONAL POLICIES

Over 1,900 colleges and universities have committed to test-optional or test-blind admissions policies.

This means that most colleges and universities do not require students to submit their standardized test scores (ACT/SAT) as an admissions requirement.

During the Covid-19 pandemic, many colleges removed the standardized score as a required part of admissions.

Since then, this has become the prevailing admissions policy across the country. By de-emphasizing the importance of ACT/SAT scores in admissions, admissions offices are putting more weight into students' high school transcripts and the rigor of courses.

## **Should I Submit My Scores?**

**Scores:** The general guidance is that students should submit ACT/SAT scores if they exceed the 50% percentile of scores accepted by a college. You can find the range of each college's admitted and enrolled students' ACT/SAT scores using the <u>College Scorecard</u>.

**Placement Tests:** Some colleges use ACT/SAT scores for placement in a freshman class (i.e. a math course) and may require students to take a placement test in lieu of ACT/SAT scores.

**Competitive Majors:** Competitive majors may have specific admissions requirements, including requiring ACT/SAT scores and may have a limited number of slots each year. Make sure to research the requirements for these majors.

**Accelerated Programs:** Some accelerated programs, such as BS/MD or BS/DDS, may require ACT/SAT scores.

**Scholarships:** Some states and colleges use ACT/SAT scores to distribute merit scholarships and aid.

## **How to Submit Scores**

Below are common standardized test scores that students submit to colleges as part of the admissions process. Click on each link to learn how to send your scores:

**ACT Scores** 

Advanced Placement Scores
International Baccalaureate Scores
SAT Scores

Students are strongly encouraged to research each college's admissions requirements and discuss their options with their school counselor before deciding whether or not to submit their scores.

## **Standardized Test Policies**

- **Testing Required Colleges:** Students are required to submit their ACT/SAT scores to be considered for admission.
- **Test-Optional Colleges:** Students decide whether or not to submit their ACT/SAT scores.
- Test-Flexible Colleges: Standardized test scores are required for admission, but students can choose which test scores to submit, such as Advanced Placement or International Baccalaureate scores.
- **Test-Blind Colleges:** ACT/SAT scores are not used in the admissions process and will not be considered even if submitted.



