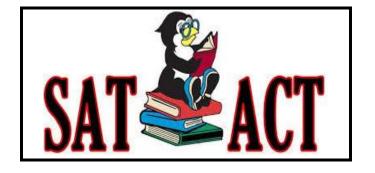# College Testing Information 2016-2017

OHS 052280

Most four-year colleges and universities require either the SAT or the ACT as part of their admissions process. Students are encouraged to take either or both tests for the first time at the end of their Junior year, and then to take the test(s) again at the beginning of their Senior year to see if they can improve their scores. *For both tests, photo identification must be uploaded when registering online.* (Athletes who have registered with the NCAA Eligibility Center should identify NCAA as one of their test score recipients.) <u>IMPORTANT NOTE for Seniors</u>: The last test date accepted for most college applications is in December.

News Flash! OUSD has partnered with College Board to be the first district in Orange County to offer in-school SAT testing to all District high school students. On **SAT School Day (Wednesday, October 19)**, students in grades 9-11 will take the PSAT and 12th-grade students will take the SAT during the regular school day. There is no cost to students.

PSAT National Merit Scholar Qualifying Test

The PSAT provides firsthand practice for the SAT, as well as feedback regarding the test-taker's strengths and weaknesses. The PSAT also gives Juniors the opportunity to qualify for scholarships sponsored by the National Merit Scholarship Corporation.

SAT Reasoning Test

Description: Multiple-choice tests for Critical Reading, Writing, and Math
Essay is now optional (recommended by most colleges).
Students may choose to take the test on paper or computer.

Duration: 3 hours (plus 50 minutes for optional essay)

Cost: $57 with essay; $45 without essay
(Fee waivers are available in Counseling Office for students who qualify.)

Scoring: 1600 points possible (instead of 2400)
There is no longer a penalty for incorrect answers.

Registration: **www.collegeboard.org**

Test Dates	Registration Dates
October 1, 2016	September 1, 2016
November 5, 2016	October 7, 2016
December 3, 2016	November 3, 2016
January 21, 2017	December 21, 2016
March 11, 2017	February 10, 2017
May 6, 2017	April 7, 2017
June 3, 2017	May 9, 2017

ACT

Description: Multiple-choice tests for English, Reading, Math and Science
Optional essay (recommended by most colleges)
Students may choose to take the test on paper or computer.

Duration: 3 hours (plus 40 minutes for optional essay)

Cost: $58.50 with essay: $42.50 without essay
(Fee waivers are available in Counseling Office for students who qualify.)

Scoring: 36 points possible
No penalty for incorrect answers

Registration: **www.act.org**

Test Dates	Registration Dates
October 22, 2016	September 16, 2016
December 10, 2016	November 4, 2016
February 11, 2017	January 13, 2017
April 8, 2017	March 3, 2017
June 10, 2017	May 5, 2017

SAT Subject Tests

SAT Subject Tests are no longer required for UC admission; however, some colleges may recommend or require them for specific programs of study. Students may choose to take SAT Subject Tests to showcase their achievements and highlight their readiness for specific majors.

Description: Content-based tests in 5 general subject areas: English, History, Math, Science, and Languages

Duration: 1 hour per test; students may take up to 3 different Subject Tests in one sitting

Cost: $26 (basic fee) plus $20 for each subject. (Fee waivers are available in Counseling Office for students who qualify. There are additional costs for Language Tests with the listening component.)

Scoring: 200-800 scale; no penalty for incorrect answers

Registration: **www.collegeboard.org**

Subject	Recommended Test Timeframe
Literature	End of 11th grade
U.S. History	End of 11th grade
World History	End of 10th grade
Mathematics Level 1	After taking Algebra II (NOTE: UC's will accept only Mathematics Level 2)
Mathematics Level 2	After taking Pre-Calculus/Trigonometry
Biology	After taking Biology or AP Biology
Chemistry	After taking Chemistry or AP Chemistry
Physics	After taking Physics or AP Physics
Languages	After taking 2-3 years of the language