

# Junior College Planning

## January 2021 - Testing

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# Standardized Testing

- ▶ Colleges often use scores from standardized tests for one data point in admissions
- ▶ Some students do very well and others struggle on timed exams
- ▶ Most recently, colleges have been placing less emphasize on ACT/SAT scores
- ▶ We also have a current reality of limited testing opportunities
- ▶ Test Optional Admissions (or pathways)
  - ▶ You can have test scores and still choose not to share them with colleges
- ▶ Monitor trends over the next 6 months

# Test Optional Schools

- ▶ **FairTest.org**
- ▶ If your GPA/transcript alone makes you competitive for admission, but your test score is below average for their institution, don't send it.
- ▶ Some schools do require another application piece to replace the test score, but most do not.
- ▶ Pay attention to scholarship requirements!
  - ▶ The test score might be competitive for admission, but prevent you from getting a higher scholarship that your GPA alone would have met!
- ▶ **Check policies on each individual college website for the most current information!**

# Testing Options

- ▶ ACT (with or without writing)
  - ▶ SAT (with or without essay)
  - ▶ SAT Subject Tests – requested by few
- } Colleges have NO preference on test other than if there is writing/no writing!
- ▶ What does your testing calendar look like?
  - ▶ The district is still hoping to offer a free ACT to all juniors on April 13<sup>th</sup> – students will be automatically registered for that exam. All other testing opportunities would be planned through the ACT website (testing offered about every other month)

# 2021 Testing Dates & Fees

## ACT

[www.actstudent.org](http://www.actstudent.org)

- Feb 6
- Apr 17
- Jun 12
- Jul 17

Without Writing → \$55

With Writing → \$70

\*Sending score reports to colleges → \$13 per school (4 free during registration)

## SAT

[www.collegeboard.org](http://www.collegeboard.org)

- Mar 13
- May 8
- Jun 5

Without Writing → \$52

With Writing → \$68

## Fee Waivers

Students who qualify for meal benefits through Parkway are eligible for 2 fee waivers for ACT and 2 fee waivers for SAT

Parkway pays for the ACT in April of junior year for all students

# Testing Accommodations

- ▶ Discuss with your comprehensive counselor
- ▶ Accommodations must be approved by ACT/College Board well in advance of testing date (up to **6 weeks before testing!**)
  - ▶ Deadline to request accommodations for the April 13<sup>th</sup> test is February 12<sup>th</sup>.
- ▶ Testing agency determines which accommodations are authorized

# Test Prep Resources

- ▶ Log in to [Naviance](#)
- ▶ Click on Links at bottom of home screen and choose [Testive](#)
  - ▶ **FREE** test prep for ACT and SAT!
- ▶ Additional resources on the [PCH Counseling](#) website
  - ▶ Khan Academy, ACT Academy
  - ▶ Fee-based tutors/classes

# Superscore

	English	Math	Reading	Science	Writing	Composite
1	21	23	21	17	-	21
2	20	24	23	23	-	23
3	22	26	26	25	-	25
4	23	25	24	26	12	25
5	22	24	23	27	-	23

**Highest composite** → send test 3 or 4

**ACT w/ Writing Required** → send test 4

**Superscore** → send test 3, 4 & 5 →  $(23+26+26+27)/4 = 25.5 = 26!$



# Overwhelmed?

- ▶ Start researching college testing policies and continue monitoring throughout the year
- ▶ Establish a testing calendar and get registered
- ▶ Do intentional test prep (free options available)
- ▶ Check out all of the resources on the [PCH Counseling](#) website and in [Naviance](#)