

**WELCOME JUNIORS & PARENTS  
OF HUNTINGTON HIGH SCHOOL  
CLASS OF 2017**

**Part II**

**The College Process**

# THE PRACTICE SAT (PSAT)

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 14<sup>TH</sup>, 2015 AT 7:45AM

- o What is the new redesigned PSAT?
- o Can my child qualify for the National Merit Scholarship Qualifying Test (NMQT)?
- o Has your child registered?
- o What is the Interactive Score Report and Khan Academy all about?

# SAT AND ACT EXAMS

- ❑ What are the SAT and ACT exams?
- ❑ Why should students take these exams?
- ❑ When should these exams be taken?
- ❑ How can my child prepare for these exams?
- ❑ How does my child register for these exams?
- ❑ What are the admission photo registration requirements?
- ❑ How do I file an accommodation form?
- ❑ Are there Score Choice options?

# SAT REASONING AND SUBJECT TESTS

## ❑ SAT Reasoning Test

3 sections: Critical Reading, Math, Writing

800 points per section

To Register: [www.collegeboard.com](http://www.collegeboard.com)

2015-2016 Exam Fee (Oct 2015 - Jan. 2016): \$54.50

2015-2016 Exam Fee (from March 2016 on: \$43.00 w/o+ writing

2015-2016 Exam Fee (from March 2016 on: \$54.50 with writing

## ❑ SAT Subject Tests

Literature, US History, World History, Math Level 1, Math Level 2,  
Biology E/M, Chemistry, Physics, Chinese, French, German,  
Spanish, Italian, Hebrew, Latin, Japanese, Korean

*800 points per exam*

To Register: [www.collegeboard.com](http://www.collegeboard.com)

2015-2016 Exam Fee: \$26.00 plus exam fee(s)

# ACT EXAM

## ❑ ACT Examination

5 sections: Verbal, Math, Reading, Science Reasoning  
1-36 sub-score for each section  
Writing section optional (score range is 2-12)

❑ To Register: [www.actstudent.org](http://www.actstudent.org)

❑ 2015-2016 Exam Fees: \$39.50 without writing  
\$56.50 with writing

❑ Mock ACT Exam – Saturday, January 9<sup>th</sup>, 2016

# POST-SECONDARY PLANNING OPTIONS

- ❑ Colleges and universities
  - Academic Programs
  - Technical Schools
- ❑ Career/work
  - Employment Day (sometime in May)
  - Job Corps
- ❑ Military
  - Air Force
  - Army
  - Coast Guard
  - Marines
  - Navy
- ❑ Gap-Year
  - Study Abroad
  - Community Service (AmeriCorps)
  - Cultural Awareness/exposure

# INVESTIGATE & COMPARE COLLEGES

- ❑ Over 4,100 colleges, universities and technical schools nation wide
- ❑ Size of school
- ❑ Distance from home
- ❑ Commute vs. dorm
- ❑ Majors available
- ❑ Class size
- ❑ Activities
- ❑ NCAA
- ❑ Admission policies & criteria
- ❑ Academic, physical and emotional support services
- ❑ Financial aid

# WHAT TYPES OF COLLEGES EXIST?

- ❑ **Liberal Arts Colleges:** Offer a broad base of courses in the humanities, social sciences and sciences
- ❑ **Universities:** Offer more majors and facilities, class sizes are usually larger
- ❑ **Community or Junior Colleges:** Offer a degree after two years of full time study
- ❑ **Agriculture, Technical and Specialized Colleges:** Offer preparation for specific careers



# HOW MANY COLLEGES SHOULD I APPLY TO?

## ❑ Reach

- GPA and test score average are above the student's scores
- The low admission rate may make the probability of getting in more of a gamble

## ❑ Target

- Student's GPA and test score average match those of the average admitted student
- Educational approach at the college matches the student's needs

## ❑ Safety

- Student's GPA and test scores are above those of the average student admitted
- Admission rate indicates high probability of admission

# COLLEGE APPLICATION OPTIONS

- ❑ **Regular Decision:** “I am interested and if accepted, I might want to attend.”
- ❑ **Early Action:** “I am very interested and if accepted, I will most likely attend.”
- ❑ **Early Decision:** “It’s true love, and if accepted, I *must attend*, because it is *contractually binding*.”
- ❑ **Single Choice Early Action:** “I’m very interested, and you’re the one and only school I may apply to early.” (Non-binding)
- ❑ **Rolling Admission:** “I must apply as soon as possible because applications are reviewed and decisions are made on a rolling basis.”

# HELPFUL TIPS

- ❑ College is an investment!
- ❑ Demonstrate interest
  - Information session
  - Campus tour
  - Attend a class
  - Meet with academic department representatives and/or coaches
  - Meet with financial aid representatives
  - Interview (then send a thank you letter!)
  - Long Island and/or NYC admission receptions for out of state colleges
  - Alumni programs

# COLLECTING INFORMATION

- ❑ College visits
  - ❑ Juniors are entitled to 2 college visitation days
  - ❑ Seniors are entitled to 5 college visitations days
  - ❑ College admission counselors visit with seniors throughout the fall months
  - ❑ Open houses
  - ❑ College fairs
  
- ❑ Friday Flyer

# SPECIAL CONSIDERATIONS

- ❑ Student Support Services
- ❑ Portfolio requirements
  - Fine Arts, Graphic Design, Architecture, Writing, Music Composition
- ❑ Audition deadlines
  - Drama, Music, Voice, Dance
- ❑ Athletics
  - Division I, Division II, or Division III

# LETTERS OF RECOMMENDATION

## ❑ 2 academic recommendations

- Students request letters in June
- Junior year teachers are preferred
- 5 core subjects: English, LOTE, math, science, social studies

## ❑ 1 counselor recommendation

- Mrs. Bernadette Walsh

# THE COLLEGE ESSAY

- ❑ Distinguish yourself from the other applicants
- ❑ Roughly 500 words
- ❑ Grasp of grammar, ability to create a lucid, structured prose; and a vivid portrait of the student's personality and character
- ❑ Select a topic or choose your own

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

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

[www.teenink.com](http://www.teenink.com)

# THE ACTIVITY RÉSUMÉ/SHEET

- Grades 9 - 12
- Extracurricular activities
- Community Service
- Honors/Awards
- Work Experience
- Enrichment Experience



# PAYING FOR COLLEGE

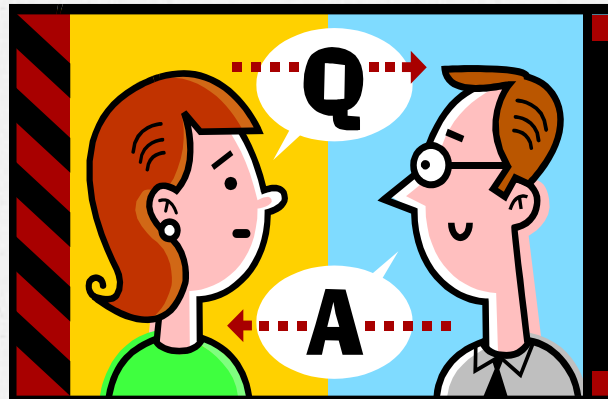
- ❑ Family Funds
- ❑ Scholarships
- ❑ Financial Aid
  - FAFSA (Free Application for Federal Student Aid)
  - Fafsa4caster
  - CSS Profile
  - Net Price Calculator

# SCHOLARSHIP RESOURCES

- ❑ **College-sponsored scholarships**  
Contact the colleges directly for academic/merit scholarships. Usually available in all disciplines including art, athletics, and music
  
- ❑ **Scholarship Bulletins**  
Published four times throughout the year; and posted on the district's website
  
- ❑ **Websites**  
Refer to the Post-Secondary Planning Guide

# QUESTIONS & ANSWERS?

Thank you for coming!



Please feel free to e-mail us with your  
feedback at

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