

TESTING FOR COLLEGE

I. INTRODUCTION

Test scores are just one of the many items used by colleges to evaluate students for admission. Test scores are designed to help colleges make **objective** comparisons between students. While grades may vary from school to school, the standardized test **should** be the same for all students, whether they are in Massachusetts or California.

II. TYPES OF TESTS

A. **SAT-I**: This test, known as the Scholastic Assessment Test, is published by the Educational Testing Service (ETS), a branch of the College Entrance Examination Board (CEEB). It is the most widely used and accepted of all the college entrance tests. The SAT-I is a 3 hour, **primarily** multiple choice test, that measures the verbal and mathematical reasoning abilities that you have developed over time. More than 6 million students from take the SAT-I each year.

B. **SAT-II**: The SAT-II is a subject specific series of tests that some colleges, generally the more highly competitive, require for admission. Each test is a one-hour primarily multiple choice test, that measures your knowledge and skills in particular subjects and your ability to apply that knowledge. They fall into 5 general areas: English, history and social studies, mathematics, sciences, and languages.

C. **ACT**: The ACT is the college admissions test of the American College Testing Program. It is the SAT's one big competitor. While about 6 million students take the SAT each year, only about 1 million take the ACT. For all practical purposes, the ACT and the SAT are the same kind of test.

III. SAT-I

- A. SCORING
- B. QUESTIONS
- C. GUESSING

IV. TEST PREPARATION

- A. WHY
- B. HOW
- C. WHO
- D. WHEN

V. REGISTERING FOR THE SAT-I

- A. HOW
- B. WHEN TO REGISTER
- C. WHEN TO TAKE THEM
- D. WHERE TO TAKE THEM