

The ABC's of Testing

Test	Grade Level	Purpose?	When?
<u>FCAT</u>	<u>9th and 10th</u>	Students are required to pass the Reading portion of this test before graduation, except where they are exempted by law.	April
PSAT/NMSQT	Any grade	The PSAT provides feedback on academic skills to aid student learning and help prepare for the expectations of college. <i>Juniors taking the PSAT have a chance to enter the National Merit Scholarship Competition.</i>	October
SAT	Any grade	The SAT Reasoning Test measures developed reasoning ability related to successful performance in college. A student may take the SAT II Subject Tests. More information about the SAT tests is on the College Board website.	October November December January March May June
PLAN	10 th grade	The PLAN helps students measure their current academic development, explore career/training options, and make plans for the remaining years of high school and post-graduation years.	October
PRA	Any	Princeton Review Assessment compares student's predicted performance on ACT and SAT and is for practice purposes.	Spring
ACT	Any grade	The ACT Test is accepted by almost all colleges and universities and is an alternative to the SAT. The ACT is a multiple-choice test that covers English, Math, Reading and Science Reasoning. An optional writing test is available for students to take.	October December February April June
ASVAB	Any grade	The Armed Service Vocational Aptitude Battery (ASVAB) is an interest inventory exam for career exploration and armed services career entry.	Spring
PERT	Any grade, usually Junior Year	The P.E.R.T. assessment system includes Placement and Diagnostic tests in mathematics, reading and writing and is used for accurate college placement.	Spring or when needed for Dual Enrollment
<u>EOC</u>	<u>Algebra,</u> <u>Geometry,</u> <u>Biology,</u> <u>US History</u>	End of Course exams are required for students to earn credit in the course listed, dependent upon cohort graduation requirements.	April – May, September, and December

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Florida Comprehensive Assessment Test (FCAT)

The FCAT is designed to measure benchmarks in the Florida Sunshine State Standards. The tests consist of both multiple-choice items and performance tasks (open-ended questions, which students will write either short or extended responses). Currently, all ninth and tenth grade students must take the FCAT Reading and End of Course exams for given courses. Students and parents can get a variety of information and resources on the FCAT by going to the Florida Department of Education's internet website address. Just log onto the internet and go to <http://fcats.fldoe.org>

Preliminary Scholastic Assessment Test/National Merit Scholarship Qualifying Test (PSAT)

The PSAT is open to students in all grade levels and should be taken by *all* college-bound juniors because *the PSAT is the only means of entry into the National Merit Scholarship Competition, and only junior year scores can be used to qualify eligible candidates for this prestigious national academic competition.* The PSAT assesses critical reading (passage-based reading, sentence completions), math reasoning (numbers and operation; algebra and algebraic functions; geometry and measurement; data analysis, statistics, probability), and writing skills (sentence error identification, sentence and paragraph improvements) that are important for success in college. By taking the PSAT, students will familiarize themselves with the format of the SAT Reasoning Test. They will also be provided with much needed feedback regarding their academic abilities when compared with other college-bound students. This test is offered on the SLHS campus each October for a fee. Juniors that qualify for free or reduced lunch may be eligible for a test fee waiver. See your Career Specialist for more information.

ACT PLAN Test

The PLAN[®] program helps 10th graders build a solid foundation for future academic and career success and provides information needed to address school districts' high-priority issues. It is a comprehensive guidance resource that helps students measure their current academic development, explore career/training options, and make plans for the remaining years of high school and post-graduation years. This test is given to all sophomores per district policy each fall.

American College Testing Program (ACT) Many colleges require ACT scores for admission purposes. The ACT assessment includes four major test areas: English Usage, Mathematics, Reading, and Science Reasoning. Students receive a score (scale of 1-36) in each of these areas as well as a composite score (average of the four major test scores; scale of 1 -36). It is recommended to take the test near the end of the junior year, so there will be ample time to retest in the fall of the senior year should the student want to do so. College-bound students are strongly encouraged to take both the ACT and the SAT Reasoning Test. ACT registration and preparation materials are available in the high school guidance offices. An optional 30 minute writing test measures writing skills emphasized in high school English classes and in entry-level college composition classes. To determine whether you will need scores from the optional writing test, consult the

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ACT web site, check with those colleges to which you will be applying, or talk with your counselor. Juniors and seniors that qualify for free or reduced lunch are eligible for test fee waivers. See your Career Specialist for more information. The ACT web site address is www.actstudent.org.

SAT Reasoning Test

The SAT Reasoning Test is a three-hour and forty-five minute test, which measures critical reading, writing and mathematical reasoning skills that students have developed over time and skills they need to be academically successful. The essay is always the first section of the SAT, and the 10 minute multiple-choice section will always be the final section. The remaining 25 minute sections can appear in any order as can the two 20 minute sections. Test takers sitting next to each other in the same testing session may have test books with entirely different sections.

Each section of the SAT is scored on a 200 to 800 point scale, and the writing section will contain two sub scores. One 25 minute section of the test is not scored and can be in any of the test areas. This section does not count toward the final score but is used to try out new questions for future editions of the SAT and to ensure that scores on new editions of the SAT are comparable to scores on earlier editions of the test. Students may want to consult materials that are available in the high school Guidance Offices for additional information regarding the SAT Reasoning Test or go to www.collegeboard.com where they will be able to find study guides and practice tests. Juniors and seniors that qualify for free or reduced lunch are eligible for test fee waivers. See your Career Specialist for more information.

Testing Registration

The following tests require the completion of online registration forms at their given websites: American College Testing Program (ACT); SAT Reasoning Test; and SAT Subject Tests.

The school testing code for SLHS is 102124.

<http://www.collegeboard.com> for SAT or SAT Reasoning tests

<http://www.act.org> for ACT

ASVAB (Armed Services Vocational Aptitude Battery)

The ASVAB consists of eight sub-tests. When combined, these sub-tests produce two types of composite scores: academic and occupational. The occupational scores may be used to make predictions about future job performance as well as provide information about a student's aptitude in many career areas. Sunlake High School offers the ASVAB twice a year.

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9th grade

EOC – Algebra 1
FCAT Reading

10th grade

EOC – Geometry, Biology
PLAN
FCAT Reading
PSAT – if desired
PRA

11th grade

EOC – US History
PSAT
ACT
SAT
PERT
ASVAB

Must pass
required FCAT
and EOC's

PERT
ASVAB
ACT
SAT

12th grade