

College Entrance Exams

How To Register

Most college bound students take the SAT Reasoning Test and SAT Subject Tests (if required) when applying to 4 year colleges. Your guidance counselor can assist you in determining which tests are appropriate for you. Students may register for the SAT Reasoning and SAT Subject tests by paper registration, located in the CCRC, by phone or online at www.collegeboard.com. Cambridge Rindge and Latin's CEEB # is 220493. CRLS test center code is 22-256. Please note the school code and test center code are two different codes. Students who were approved by the College Board for special testing accommodations will also need to provide their SSD code which can be obtained in the approval letter you received from the College Board or from your guidance counselor. Please be sure to use your given name such as Jones, Richard and not Jones, Ricky when registering for College Entrance Exams.

Fee waivers or fee reductions are available for College Entrance Exams.

Students may receive 2 fee waivers per high school career for the SAT Reasoning Test and 2 fee waivers per high school career for SAT Subject Test. Students who received SAT waivers are also given 4 college application fee waivers. The ACT also provides eligible students with 2 fee waivers per high school career. Students who have free or reduced lunch, or are AVID or Upward Bound Students automatically qualify for a fee waiver. Additional fee waiver guidelines are available on the College Board and ACT websites. Please see your guidance counselor for a fee waiver form. The TOEFL provides students with a fee reduction. Students interested in a TOEFL fee reduction should see their guidance counselor.

Special Circumstances

If you currently receive accommodations in school due to a professionally diagnosed and documented disability, you may submit documentation to support a request for special testing accommodations. This request must be made far ahead of time, as the process involves a formal application, as well as enough time to obtain College Board's approval for accommodation. CRLS recommends all freshmen who are currently on an IEP or 504 and receives special, in school, testing accommodations submit an application for special testing accommodations through the College Board in June. CRLS also recommends that any students, who are newly placed on an IEP or 504 accommodation with special testing accommodations, submit an application for special testing accommodations through the College Board upon accepting their IEP or 504 Accommodation plan. **Though a student may receive special accommodations due to an IEP or 504 at CRLS, this DOES NOT guarantee the College Board will approve a request for special accommodations.** Students should see their guidance counselors to apply for special testing accommodations.

Preliminary Scholastic Aptitude Test (PSAT) / National Merit Qualifying Test

The PSAT is a school based test given once a year, in October. CRLS requires that all sophomores and juniors take it for the following reasons:

1. The PSAT provides practice and an estimate of the scores that each student can expect to receive on the SAT exams given in the spring of their junior year.
2. The results of this test, which are received in January, provide students with their strengths and weaknesses, and allow them several months to work on improving their test scores.
3. Junior Year Only - This is the test which is used in the junior year to identify National Merit Scholarship Qualifiers.

Students should see their guidance counselor to register for the PSAT.

SAT Reasoning Test

The SAT Reasoning consists of 3 components, Critical Reading, Math, and Writing. The exam takes 3 hours and 45 minutes. The essay is the first portion of the test.

The critical reading section measures a student's ability to identify genre, relationships among parts of text, cause and effect, rhetorical devices and comparative arguments. Questions assess such reading skills as identifying main and supporting ideas, determining the meaning of words, understanding authors' purposes and understanding the structure and function of sentences. Reading passages are taken from different fields including, natural sciences, humanities, social sciences and literary fiction.

The mathematics section measures a student's mastery of mathematical concepts and reasoning skills. It includes topics typically covered in three years of college-preparatory math, such as exponential growth, absolute value, functional notation, linear functions, manipulations with exponents and properties of tangent lines. Students are asked to apply concepts they have learned to solve unfamiliar problems in flexible ways, often with real-world applications.

The writing section measures a student's mastery of developing and expressing ideas effectively. The essay, which is always first question on the SAT, measures a student's skill in developing and expressing a point of view on an issue. The multiple-choice section assesses the ability to use language in a clear, consistent manner and to improve a piece of writing through revision and editing. Students are asked to recognize sentence errors, to choose the best version of a piece of writing and to improve paragraphs.

When should students take the SAT Reasoning Test?

CRLS recommends students take the SAT Reasoning Test once in the spring of junior year, in May or June, and if again in the fall of their senior year, October or November.

SAT Subject Test

SAT Subject Tests measure student's knowledge and skills in particular subject areas, and their ability to apply that knowledge. They are closely linked to the high school curriculum and have a proven track record of providing colleges with a highly reliable, objective assessment of student readiness for college-level work. The SAT Subject Tests give students an additional opportunity to distinguish themselves and showcase their skills in a particular subject area.

There are 20 SAT Subject Tests covering 16 core subjects in five areas: English, history, mathematics, the sciences and languages. Like the SAT, the SAT Subject Tests apply one standard to all students taking the test in a given subject, regardless of variations in preparation and, combined with other factors, are a good predictor of achievement in a subject and of future success in college.

The tests are one-hour, primarily multiple-choice, curriculum-based assessments of knowledge and skills in particular subject areas. Students may take up to three SAT Subject Tests on the same date, but they may not take the SAT and SAT Subject Tests on the same day. It is important to check dates on which each SAT Subject Test is given because not all are administered on all seven annual testing dates. This information, as well as a description of each test and sample questions, can be found at www.collegeboard.com/subject-tests.

Do all colleges require the SAT Subject Tests?

Although the majority of colleges do not require the SAT Subject Tests for admission, many highly selective colleges require three Subject Tests in addition to the SAT Reasoning Test.

When should students take the SAT Subject Tests?

It is wise to take the tests at the completion of your study of a subject if you will not be continuing in that area. Typically, the majority of CRLS students take SAT Subject Tests in their junior year; there may be some exception where students take the SAT Subject Tests earlier than junior year.

Students should consult with their guidance counselor prior to registering for the SAT Subject Tests.

Students may register for both the SAT Reasoning and SAT Subject exams online at www.collegeboard.com.

ACT

The ACT contains four 35 to 50 minute, curriculum-based tests that measure academic achievement in the areas of English, mathematics, reading, and science as well as an optional Writing Test. It is recommended that students register for the ACT with Writing as many colleges require this. The ACT may be used in place of a SAT Subject Test or SAT score depending on the college. Students should check with the colleges they are applying to regarding their policies around substituting the ACT for the SAT and SAT Subject Tests. Students may register for the ACT online at www.act.org.

TOEFL

Test of English as a Foreign Language, The test measures the ability of nonnative speakers of English to use and understand English as it is spoken, written, and heard in College and University settings. There are Reading, Listening, Speaking and Writing sections of the exam. The exam is approximately 4 hours long and is internet based. Students may practice online at www.ets.org/toeflpractice. Students may register for the TOEFL online at www.ets.org/toefl. It is a good idea to take this test during junior year.