

ACT/SAT SPECIAL TESTING GUIDELINES FOR PARENTS

Work with your child on a plan for taking the ACT/SAT exams. Decide with your child well in advance which test dates your child will participate. In order to provide for less stress, a good strategy is to take into consideration your child's availability due to sports schedules, etc. Discuss whether your child is agreeable to the accommodations and specific test dates being requested.

ACT or SAT?

The SAT and ACT are administered by two different companies. It is not always clear as to which test is best for your student, meaning where they will have the most success. While there are various comparisons of the SAT and ACT which can be found online, the best way to determine the better test is for your student to take a shortened version of each and to compare their performance. There are several companies which will give a student a shortened version of the SAT and ACT and which give a side by side comparison. For example, the Glen Rock Community School offers a shortened version of each test through The Princeton Review.

The SAT practice tests will be given this year on Saturday October 26, 2019 at 8:30 am and on February 22, 2020 at 8:30 am.

The ACT practice tests will be given this year on Saturday, November 16, 2019 at 8:30 am and on March 7, 2020 at 8:30 am.

Students may register for the practice tests by visiting the website of the Glen Rock Community School.

REQUESTING ACCOMMODATIONS:

Students may request accommodations for either the SAT or ACT. Since the tests are administered through two different companies, the student must follow the guidelines for requesting accommodations as established by each company.

ACT

1. Register for the ACT test, indicating at the point of registration the need for accommodations. The ACT website has a step by step outline of the process.
2. Once registered, an email to the dashboard will be automatically generated. You will be contacted by Dianne Carpenter/School Psychologist, the ACT Test Coordinator to confirm which accommodations your student is applying for.

SAT

Students may apply to SAT for accommodations without registering for a specific test date. In general, application to SAT may be accomplished at any point, but preferably during freshman or sophomore year. Students may apply for this accommodation through their Case Manager who works with the district's SAT Coordinator, Ms. Barrett. Once the documentation is sent to SAT, the student will receive a letter and the district's SAT Coordinator will receive a copy of the letter through the dashboard. The letter will state the decision of the College Board.

If the student is approved for accommodations, the letter they receive will have an SSD number assigned. Note that this number is to be utilized each time the student registers for the SAT test. The student will be prompted to enter the SSD number at the point of registration.

IMPORTANT NOTE: It is extremely important that you register your student well in advance of the testing date, especially for the initial accommodations request. Early registration allows for reconsideration by ACT/SAT of the requested accommodation should that accommodation be initially denied. A Release of Information for the district to release the student's testing and IEP to ACT or SAT must be kept on file by the district.

HOW STUDENTS MAY ACCESS THEIR TESTING ACCOMMODATIONS:

In general, students who require time and a half for testing may take the test (ACT or SAT) at any local area high school. Students who require more extensive accommodations may apply for approval of those accommodations. More extensive accommodations place the student in what is called "school based" or "special testing" which translates to the test being conducted at the student's local high school or at another school if the high school cannot accommodate the student on that particular test date.

STUDENTS WHO REQUIRE SPECIAL TESTING:

For ACT the Glen Rock Special Testing dates for this school year are given below. Special Testing will not be conducted by Glen Rock on any alternative ACT test dates.

Special testing will be conducted 4 times per year*:

September 14, 2019

October 26, 2019

February 8, 2020

April 4, 2020

* Special Testing is administered during the 2 week period following the above test dates. Specific testing dates/times can only be determined once all students are registered and approved by ACT for their accommodations. Once the list is complete, students will be assigned to groups according to the ACT guidelines for accommodations. At that point, students and their parents

will be emailed with the information for their specific test dates, including testing dates/times and location.

For SAT- Special testing will be conducted 2 times per year, corresponding to the test dates that the district administers the tests as follows:

October 5, 2019

June 8, 2020

Administration of specialized testing for SAT will be conducted according to the SAT guidelines for Special Testing. The parent and student will be informed by their child's Case Manager of the special testing arrangements.

**STUDENTS SHOULD PRACTICE TAKING A FULL TEST PRIOR TO THEIR
CHOSEN TEST DATE**

In order to minimize any stress your child may be experience with regard to participating in the ACT or SAT, it is highly recommended that they become familiar with the test well in advance of their chosen test date(s). The summer months are a good time for students to familiarize themselves with the test, whether through visiting the ACT and SAT websites and taking practice tests, or through more formalized tutoring.