

Colleges That Require SAT Subject Tests



Does applying to college feel like you're trying to walk through a door, but don't yet have the keys? To gain access, first you need to understand exactly what your colleges require. This can be tricky with the SAT Subject Tests, as colleges have several different policies.

We've compiled a **comprehensive list of colleges that require SAT Subject Tests, along with others that recommend or consider them as part of your application**. As policies are continually changing, always double check with the school about their standardized testing requirements. Let us know in the comments if we need to make any updates!

Because our list is comprehensive and definitive, this page is pretty long. Make sure you scroll all the way to the bottom to read our tips on which SAT Subject Tests you should take, and more strategies.

This chart shows the standardized testing policies for the 2014 to 2015 year. We've marked four policies towards the Subject Tests: required, recommended, considered, and alternative.

- **Required** means you have to take the SAT Subject Tests. In a few cases, as you'll see, colleges will accept the ACT in lieu of the Subject Tests. Some colleges require one subject test, while the more competitive, selective colleges require two.
- **Recommended** is a little vague, as it leaves the decision up to you whether or not to send your scores. If you can achieve high scores or want to make up for a low SAT score, then it's a good idea. If your scores are low and will look like an outlier on your application, you might be better served not sending them. In most of these cases, though, colleges will likely appreciate that you took on the extra challenge and can demonstrate subject mastery.
- **Considered** means that the colleges do not necessarily expect your SAT Subject Test scores, but they will factor them in if you decide to send them. If you have a real interest in a particular subject or it's connected to your future academic and/or professional goals, then it may enhance your application to send a (strong) Subject Test score.
- **Alternative** means that colleges have unique policies that may be test flexible. For more on this, [check out the full list of test optional and test flexible schools here.](#)

Furthermore, some schools accept the ACT + Writing in lieu of SAT and Subject Tests. In other words, you can submit the SAT + 2 Subject Tests, or the ACT + Writing. We've indicated that in the 3rd column below.

We've sorted the list alphabetically for your convenience. Find all the schools on your list of colleges, and scroll down to the end to read our tips on SAT Subject Tests.

College	Category	ACT in Lieu of SAT and Subject Tests?	Policy
Allegheny College	Considered		Subject Tests are considered if submitted.
Amherst College	Required (2)	Yes	2 SAT Subject Tests are Required, in addition to the SAT/ACT.
Babson College	Considered		Subject Tests are considered if submitted.
Barnard College	Required (2)	Yes	2 SAT Subject Tests are Required, in addition to the SAT/ACT.
Boston College	Considered		Subject Tests are considered if submitted.
Boston University	Considered [Req for Special Programs]		Accelerated medical and dental programs require Subject Tests in Chemistry and Math 2. A Subject Test in a foreign language is also recommended for these programs.
Bowdoin College	Considered		Test Optional. SAT, ACT, and SAT Subject Tests are all optional, but will be considered if submitted.
Brown University	Required (2)	Yes	SAT + 2 SAT Subject Tests Required, OR ACT with Writing Liberal Medical Education Applicants should submit at least 1 science Subject Test

Bucknell University	Considered		Subject Tests are considered if submitted.
California Institute of Technology	Required (2)		Requires Specific Tests: SAT Subject Test Math Level 2, and one SAT Subject Test in Biology (Ecological), Biology (Molecular), Chemistry, or Physics.
Carleton College	Recommended		Subject Tests are recommended to strengthen your application.
Carnegie Mellon University	Required [Some exceptions] (2)		2 SAT Subject Tests are Required, in addition to the SAT/ACT, except for the College of Fine Arts.
Case Western Reserve University	Considered		Subject Tests are considered if submitted.
Claremont McKenna	Considered		Subject Tests are considered if submitted. Homeschooled students are required to submit 2 SAT Subject Tests, one of which must be math.
Colby College	Alternative		3 SAT Subject Tests can be substituted in place of either the SAT or ACT.
College of the Holy Cross	Considered		Test Optional. SAT, ACT, and SAT Subject Tests are all optional, but will be considered if submitted.
Colorado College	Alternative		3 SAT Subject Tests can be substituted in place of either the SAT or ACT.
Columbia University	Required (2)	Yes	SAT + 2 SAT Subject Tests Required, OR ACT with Writing Students who choose to take the ACT may submit Subject Test scores for consideration if they wish. Students may take any 2 Subject Tests for Columbia College; for Columbia Engineering, students must take a) either Math 1 or Math 2; and b) one of the following: Biology, Physics or Chemistry.

Connecticut College	Considered		Test Optional. SAT, ACT, and SAT Subject Tests are all optional, but will be considered if submitted.
Cooper Union	Required [Engineering Only] (2)		School of Engineering requires SAT Subject tests in Math and Physics or Chemistry.
Cornell University	Required [Most Programs]		0, 1, or 2 Subject Tests depending on the college.
Dartmouth College	Required (2)		2 SAT Subject Tests are Required, in addition to the SAT/ACT.
Davidson College	Recommended		Recommended: 2 SAT Subject Tests (Math and one other)
Duke University	Required (2)	Yes	SAT + 2 SAT Subject Tests Required, OR ACT with Writing
Emory University	Recommended		[SAT Subject Tests] are encouraged, but not required. Students are encouraged to submit SAT subject exam scores for academics areas of strength and/or interest.
Franklin Olin College of Engineering	Considered		Subject Tests are considered if submitted.
George Washington University	Recommended [Req Special Programs] (2)		2 SAT Subject Tests are required in science and mathematics for the Seven Year BA/MD program. The Honors Program recommends 2 Subject Tests.
Georgetown University	Recommended [Strongly] (3)		Strongly Recommended: 3 SAT Subject Tests. Breadth of subjects recommended. Foreign language and subjects of interest to the student are recommended.
Hamilton College	Alternative		2 SAT Subject Tests can be substituted in place of either the SAT or ACT.
			2 SAT Subject Tests are Required, in addition to the SAT/ACT, except in special circumstances:

Harvard College	Required ["Normally"] (2)		"While we normally require two SAT Subject Tests, you may apply without them if the cost of taking the tests represents a financial hardship or if you prefer to have your application considered without them...If your first language is not English, a Subject Test in your first language may be less helpful."
Harvey Mudd College	Required (2)		2 SAT Subject Tests are Required, in addition to the SAT/ACT. Specific tests required: Math Level 2 and one other.
Haverford College	Required (2)	Yes	SAT + 2 SAT Subject Tests Required, OR ACT with Writing
Ithaca College	Considered		Test Optional. SAT, ACT, and SAT Subject Tests are all optional, but will be considered if submitted.
Johns Hopkins University	Recommended [Strongly] (2)		2 SAT Subject Tests. For engineering applicants, one test should be Math Level 2 and the other a science test.
Kenyon College	Considered		Subject Tests are considered if submitted.
Lafayette College	Recommended		Subject Tests are recommended to strengthen your application.
Lehigh University	Recommended		Subject Tests are recommended to strengthen your application.
Macalester College	Considered		Subject Tests are considered if submitted.
Massachusetts Institute of Technology	Required (2)		2 SAT Subject Tests are Required, in addition to the SAT/ACT. Specific tests required: Math (Level 1 or Level 2) and a science. "We do not have a preference as to which" science and math that you choose.

McGill University	Required [Most Programs] (2)	Yes	SAT + 2 SAT Subject Tests Required for Most Programs, OR ACT with Writing
Middlebury College	Alternative		3 SAT Subject Tests can be substituted in place of either the SAT or ACT.
Mills College	Considered		A student's overall record may be enhanced by the presentation of SAT Subject Tests.
New York University	Alternative		<p>Test requirements satisfied by fulfilling one of the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> A) SAT B) ACT with Writing C) Three Subject Tests D) Three AP exams E) The International Baccalaureate Diploma F) Three IB higher-level exams (if a student is not an IB Diploma candidate) <p>Students who choose to submit three SAT Subject Tests, AP or IB scores must submit one in literature or the humanities, one in math or science, and one of the student's choice.</p>
Northwestern University	Recommended [Req for Special Programs]		The Honors Program in Medical Education (HPME) and the Integrated Science Program (ISP) REQUIRE specific Subject Tests. Homeschooled students must take Math Level 1 or 2 and 2 additional Subject Tests in different subject areas.
Oberlin College	Considered		Subject Tests are considered if submitted.
Occidental College	Considered		Subject Tests are considered if submitted.

Pomona College	Required (2)	Yes	SAT + 2 SAT Subject Tests Required, OR ACT with Writing
Pratt Institute	Recommended [Req Architecture]		Bachelor of Architecture applicants are recommended to take the Math Level 1 or Level 2 Subject Test.
Princeton University	Recommended (2)		We recommend, but do not require, that you take two SAT Subject Tests. We recommend, but do not require, that applicants who intend to pursue a B.S.E. degree take one SAT Subject Test in either physics or chemistry and one SAT Subject Test in mathematics (Level I or II).
Randolph-Macon College	Considered		Subject Tests are considered if submitted.
Reed College	Considered		Subject Tests are considered if submitted.
Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute	Considered [Req for Special Programs]	Yes	Applicants to the accelerated program must submit 2 SAT Subject Tests (1 math and 1 science)
Rice University	Required (2)	Yes	SAT + 2 SAT Subject Tests Required, OR ACT with Writing
Scripps College	Considered		Subject Tests are considered if submitted.
Smith College	Considered		Test Optional. SAT, ACT, and SAT Subject Tests are all optional, but will be considered if submitted.
Stanford University	Recommended		SAT Subject Tests are recommended but not required. Applicants who do not take SAT Subject Tests will not be at a disadvantage. Because SAT Subject Tests are optional, applicants may use Score Choice to selectively send their SAT Subject Test scores.
Stevens Institute of	Considered [Req for Special		Subject Tests in Math (Level 1 or 2) and either Chemistry or Biology are required for the

Technology	Programs]		Accelerated Medical Program.
Swarthmore College	Required (2)	Yes	2 SAT Subject Tests are Required, in addition to the SAT/ACT.
Trinity College (CT)	Alternative		2 SAT Subject Tests can be substituted in place of either the SAT or ACT.
Tufts University	Required (2)	Yes	SAT + 2 SAT Subject Tests Required, OR ACT with Writing Engineering applicants submitting Subject Tests are advised to take math and either physics or chemistry. Students considering a major in mathematics or the sciences are advised to take math and a science test.
Union College	Considered [Req for Special Programs]	Yes	Test Optional. Students applying to the 8-year MD program are required to submit 1 math and 1 science Subject Test along with the SAT. Alternatively, applicants can submit the ACT in lieu of both SAT and Subject Tests.
University of California, Berkeley	Recommended [Some Programs]		College of Chemistry and College of Engineering recommend Math Level 2 and a science related to the applicants intended major.
University of California, Davis	Considered		Required: SAT or ACT (Writing optional) Considered: SAT Subject Tests considered if submitted
University of California, Irvine	Recommended [Some Programs]		School of Engineering, Department of Pharmaceutical Sciences, School of Physical Sciences, and Program in Public Health all have specific Subject Test recommendations.
University of California, Los Angeles	Recommended [Some Programs]		School of Engineering and Applied Sciences recommends Math Level 2 and a science test related to the applicant's intended major.
University of California,	Considered		Subject Tests are considered if submitted.

Merced			
University of California, Riverside	Recommended [Some Programs]		College of Natural and Agricultural Sciences and College of Engineering recommend Math Level 2 and either Chemistry or Physics.
University of California, San Diego	Recommended for Some Programs		Biological or physical science applicants and applicants to the School of Engineering should take Math Level 2 and a science Subject Test related to the applicant's intended major.
University of California, Santa Barbara	Recommended [Some Programs]		Math Level 2 is recommended for College of Engineering applicants and College of Creative Studies applicants in math, physics, or computer science. In addition, physics, biology, chemistry, and biochemistry majors are recommended to take the appropriate science Subject Test.
University of California, Santa Cruz	Considered		Subject Tests are considered if submitted.
University of Chicago	Considered		If you have done exceptionally well on a particular subject test and would like to show us, feel free to send us that score.
University of Delaware	Recommended		2 Subject Tests recommended; Strongly recommended for the Honors Program
University of Georgia	Recommended		Subject Tests are recommended to strengthen your application.
University of Miami	Considered [Req for Special Programs]		Honors Program in Medicine and Honors Program in Biochemistry & Molecular Biology require minimum scores of 600 on a math Subject Test and on a science Subject Test.
University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill	Considered		You may submit supplemental scores from AP, IB or SAT Subject tests if you think they are a good reflection of your mastery of the material.
University of	Considered		SAT Subject Tests, AP, and IB tests are only used in the application process if scores enhance an

Notre Dame			application.
University of Pennsylvania	Required (2)	Yes	SAT + 2 SAT Subject Tests Required, OR ACT with Writing Applicants to Penn Engineering are strongly encouraged to take the Math Level 2 and Physics Subject Tests. Applicants to The Wharton School are strongly encouraged to take the Math Level 2. Applicants to the School of Nursing are strongly encouraged to take a Science Subject Test, preferably Chemistry.
University of Rochester	Alternative		2 SAT Subject Tests can be substituted in place of either the SAT or ACT.
University of Southern California	Recommended		Subject Tests are recommended to strengthen your application.
University of Virginia	Recommended		2 SAT Subject Tests are strongly recommended. For students intending to study the sciences, one of the Subject Tests in Math is recommended.
Vanderbilt University	Considered		Subject Tests are considered if submitted.
Vassar College	Required (2)	Yes	SAT + 2 SAT Subject Tests Required, OR ACT with Writing
Wake Forest University	Considered		Test Optional. SAT, ACT, and SAT Subject Tests are all optional, but will be considered if submitted.
Washington and Lee University	Recommended [Strongly] (2)		2 SAT Subject Tests in different subjects strongly recommended. "[Subject Tests] can provide our admission committee with useful information as we seek to distinguish between the many highly qualified applicants."
Washington University in St. Louis	Considered		We will only consider them if they strengthen your application.

Webb Institute	Required (2)		2 SAT Subject Tests are Required, in addition to the SAT/ACT. Specific tests required: Math Level 2 and one of Chemistry/Physics.
Wellesley College	Required (2)	Yes	SAT + 2 SAT Subject Tests Required, OR ACT with Writing At least one quantitative Subject Tests strongly recommended to students pursuing math or sciences.
Wesleyan University	Considered		Test Optional. SAT, ACT, and SAT Subject Tests are all optional, but will be considered if submitted.
Williams College	Required (2)		2 SAT Subject Tests are Required, in addition to the SAT/ACT.
Worcester Polytechnic Institute	Considered		Test Optional. SAT, ACT, and SAT Subject Tests are all optional, but will be considered if submitted.
Yale University	Required (2)	Yes	SAT + 2 SAT Subject Tests Required, OR ACT with Writing



Other Schools that Require SAT Subject Tests or Recommend Them

College Board also suggests that the following additional schools use SAT Subject Tests when they determine admission. If you're interested in any of these schools, look up their website or give them a call to find out if they're schools that require SAT Subject Tests or simply consider them for admission.

Alfred University	Columbus State University	Hanover College	New York State College of Ceramics at Alfred University	St. Joseph's University	University of Puerto Rico
American University	Cooking & Hospitality Institute of Chicago	Henderson State	North Carolina State University	St. Thomas Aquinas College	University of Richmond
Art Institute of Southern California	Darton College	Hillsdale College	Ohio Wesleyan University	State University of New York: Purchase	University of San Diego
Atlantic Union College	Deep Springs College	Hiram College	Oklahoma City University	Susquehanna University	University of Texas
Augusta State University	DeKalb Technical College	Hollins University	Old Dominion University	Sweet Briar College	University of Washington
Ball State University	DePaul University	Hood College	Pepperdine University	Texas A&M University	Ursinus College
Baltimore City Community College	Dickinson College	Indiana University	Pitzer College	Texas Christian University	Valley Forge Christian College
Baptist College of Florida	Drew University	Irvine Valley College	Point Loma Nazarene University	Texas Tech University	Villa Julie College
Brandeis University	Duquesne University	Jarvis Christian College	Polytechnic University: Long Island Campus	The College of New Jersey	Villanova University
Bryn Mawr College	Eckerd College	Jewish Theological Seminary of America	Pontifical College Josephinum	Thiel College	Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University

California State Polytechnic University Pomona	Fairfield University	Johnson C. Smith University	Portland State University	Tulane University	Wagner College
California University of Pennsylvania	Fairleigh Dickinson University: College at Florham	Knox College	Providence College	University of Evansville	Washington and Jefferson College
Catholic University of America	Fordham University	LaGrange College	Queen of the Holy Rosary College	University of Florida	Wheaton College
Centre College	Fort Valley State University	Lynchburg College	Queens College, City University of New York	University of Houston	Whitman College
Chapman University	Francis Marion University	Marquette University	Regis College	University of Illinois: Urbana-Champaign	Widener University
Charleston Southern University	Georgetown University	Massasoit Community College	Restaurant School	University of Kansas	Youngstown State University
Cheyney University of Pennsylvania	Gordon College	McDaniel College	Rollins College	University of Maine	
City University of New York: Brooklyn College	Goshen College	Miami University	Salem State College	University of Mary Washington	
Clarkson University	Goucher College	Middle Georgia College	Silver Lake College	University of Minnesota: Minneapolis	

Coastal Georgia Community College	Guilford College	Molloy College	Simmons College	University of Missouri: Kansas City	
Colgate University	Hampden-Sydney College	Morehouse College	Skidmore College	University of Mobile	
The College of New Jersey	Hampshire College	Morris College	Southwest Texas State University	University of Oregon	
College of William and Mary	Hampton University	New Jersey Institute of Technology	Southwestern University	University of Puerto Rico: Bayamon Technologica	

You'll have to check with the individual schools to see if they have a preference for exactly which subject tests you take. Some engineering and technical schools, for example, prefer that you take math and science Subject Tests. MIT and Caltech require one math and one science - CalTech will only accept Math Level 2!

Selective liberals arts schools tend to prefer a wide range of academic strengths and interests, so your best bet might be pairing a Subject Test in the humanities, like Literature or History, with one in math or science. Scoring high on a language test is also a valuable asset to add to your application, as colleges appreciate students with language skills and global competencies as they build their multicultural student body.

Now that you have a sense of the SAT Subject Test requirements, **what are your next steps?**



What You Need To Do

As with all parts of your application, make sure you're aware of all the requirements, recommendations, and best approaches. Especially since policies are becoming more and more flexible, **always double check with your school of interest to make sure you understand what they want.**

If you are applying to a test flexible school, you may be able to present your highest score through AP tests or the SAT Subject Tests. **Reflect on your strengths and weaknesses**, take some practice tests, and get a sense of where you will perform best.

The SAT Subject Tests may seem daunting, but they're actually closely aligned with the exams you take in class. If you're particularly interested in studying the natural world, reading and analyzing literature, solving geometry, or communicating in another language, then they might present a great opportunity for you to **highlight your strengths and your own unique passions and interests.**

What's Next?

Click here to see **the full list of SAT Subject Tests** and learn how to choose which tests are best for you. (coming soon)

Another important consideration is **when to take the Subject Tests**, especially since you might also be taking the SAT, ACT, AP exams, and finals. [This article tells you all the dates on which the various Subject Tests are offered](#) and offers some advice on your most effective schedule.

Are you also taking the SAT? The SAT requires a lot of prep to score well, and first you have to figure out when to make time to prep in your busy schedule. [Read all about when you should begin to study so you can maximize your scores.](#)

Want to improve your SAT score by 240 points or your ACT score by 4 points? We've written a guide for each test about the top 5 strategies you must be using to have a shot at improving your score. Download it for free now:

[Get eBook: 5 Tips for 240+ Points](#)