Required Information for Students Testing in California or New York State

The California Education Code and the New York State Standardized Testing Law require that certain information about the SAT be given to test takers.

Complete descriptions of the content of the test, information on test preparation and sample questions, and information on how to request SAT Student Answer Verification Services are provided in the SAT Student Guide, SAT Student Registration Booklet, and at sat.org. In addition, students who take the SAT in California in December 2020 can review the test questions under secure conditions at the ETS Western Field Office in Concord, California, by calling 925-808-2000.

Predicting College Grades

A primary purpose of the SAT is to determine how prepared students are to succeed, both in college and in career training programs. Extensive research on the predictive validity of the SAT has established its utility and value as a college entrance exam through studies on the relationship between SAT scores and first-year grade point average (FYGPA), retention, domain-specific course grades, GPA through each year of college, as well as completion. A 2019 national SAT Validity Study (collegereadiness.collegeboard.org/pdf/national-sat-validity-study.pdf), based on data from more than 223,000 students across 171 four-year colleges and universities, found the following:

- SAT scores are strongly predictive of college performance—students with higher SAT scores are more likely to have higher grades in college.
- SAT scores are predictive of student retention to their second year—students with higher SAT scores are more likely to return for their sophomore year.
- SAT scores and HSGPA are both related to academic performance in college but tend to measure slightly different aspects of academic preparation. Using SAT scores in conjunction with HSGPA is the most powerful way to predict future academic performance.
  - On average, SAT scores add 15% more predictive power above grades alone for understanding how students will perform in college.
  - SAT scores help to further differentiate student performance in college within narrow HSGPA ranges.
- Colleges can use SAT scores to identify students who may be in need of academic support before they start college and throughout their college education by monitoring predicted versus actual performance and help position these students for success.

SAT scores provide meaningful information about a student's likelihood of success in college, but the SAT should not be used as the sole source of information for high-stakes decisions. Find out more at sat.org.

Procedures to Ensure Fairness and Equity

All SAT test questions and editions of the tests are reviewed by external, independent educators from throughout the United States. Content reviewers make sure that test materials are both relevant to the work students do in high school and measure their college and career readiness. Fairness reviewers ensure that test materials are accessible to all
students, have no offensive or insensitive content, and aren’t made easier or harder by factors outside the subject being measured. In addition, questions that are statistically harder or easier than expected for a particular group of students to answer correctly based on those students’ performance on other questions in the test are excluded from the tests.

**Relationship of SAT Scores to Family Income**

College Board no longer collects information regarding family income from test takers. Past data indicate that students from every income level obtain a full range of SAT scores.