



Class of 2022-24

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Effect of Reduced College Testing Requirements

COVID Response Series



October 24, 2020

SAT & ACT College Admissions Requirements Area Are Changing Due to Societal Realities



Some KEY Test Optional Colleges:

- USC
- Howard University
- Harvard
- Cornell
- Yale
- Princeton
- University of Pennsylvania
- American University
- George Washington University
- Claremont McKenna
- Pitzer
- La Verne
- Loyola Marymount University

<https://www.fairtest.org/university/optional/state>

***See this link to view 1,700+
Accredited, 4-Year Colleges &
Universities with ACT/SAT - Optional
Testing Policies for Fall, 2021
Admissions***

64 Campuses with “Test-Blind,” “Test Free, ” or “Score Free” Admissions Policies for Fall 2021

- California Institute of Technology
- Catholic University
- California State University system (23 Campuses)
- Cornell University
- Dickinson College
- Hampshire College
- Idaho Public Universities
- Loyola University
- New Orleans University
- Minerva Schools
- Northern Illinois University
- Northern Michigan University
- Reed College
- Saint Xavier University
- Stonehill College
- University of California system (9 campuses)
- University of Charleston
- University of Minnesota - Crookston
- University of New England
- University of San Diego
- Washington State University
- Loyola Marymount University



Top Admission Application Concerns Class of 2021-23

SAT & ACT vs. Response to COVID-19

- **Just in case you are still wondering – there has not been SAT Testing in CA since some sites had it in March 2020.**
- **Why? The continuing response to COVID-19 by the Governors, Teacher’s Unions, Public Employee Unions, School Districts and County Health Officers has the schools closed for the rest of the year.**
- **Re-opening of school sites is tied to “Case Positivity” of 5% or less for a 21-Day period, which has never been reached.**

Top Admission Application Concerns Class of 2021-23

SAT & ACT Response to COVID-19 – Your Response

- Plan with the assumption either that there will not be an SAT or ACT or the requirements will be reduced for your student
- Many colleges are now at least test optional; Many are “NO TEST” at all (UC, CSU and CA Privates are all NO TEST and a few Test Optional)
- Use www.fairtest.org to see the 1,700+ test optional or “NO TEST” colleges for Class of 2021
- Many will also be for 2022 and beyond – We are thinking schools will still be closed this spring too
- Conclusion – *Concentrate on doing well in HS and then having the right college list!!*

4 Important Things to Know About HS GPAs

1. **Weighted GPA** – Also Approximately Equal to **UC/CSU GPA** on Some Transcripts – Includes Extra Points for A's and B's in AP & Honors Classes (5 and 4 for AP) – A “C” is 2 Points
2. **Un-Weighted GPA** – Also called “Total GPA” or “LAUSD GPA” – A =4, B= 3, C= 2, D =1
3. Except for UCs and CSUs, College Academic Merit Award **ALMOST ALWAYS** is based on **Unweighted GPA**
4. The UC's read **WEIGHTED GPA**; Selective Private Colleges Read AP Classes **QUALITATIVELY** no **QUANTITATIVELY** – i.e. They MAY notice if a student took any AP Classes if they were available

Advanced Classes in HS

Advanced Placement (AP)
Class(es)



Grades 8-12



Honors Classes



College Board
AP Tests

Pass



College Credit(s)



Admission to a
"Good College"



College Classes in HS

Grades 8-12



2-Year College Classes



College Credit(s)



Admission to a "Good College"



Characteristics of <u>AP Classes</u>	Characteristics of <u>College Classes</u>
May Get College Credit (Avg. =20% Pass Rate)	Usually Get College Credit (90% Pass Rate*)
Academically Challenging	Academically Challenging
Meets Demands of Guidance Counselors or School	Needs Approval of School
Usually B's & C's (Lowers Unweighted GPA)	Usually A's & B's
Course is Taught to AP Test Requirements	College Curriculum Course
UC's and Selective Private Colleges Favor this in the Admission Process	UC's and Selective Private Colleges Favor this in the Admission Process

Effect of Reduced SAT & ACT Test Requirements

- **GPA's of 2.4 to 2.7 College Options are more limited – SAT Prep is irrelevant**
- **High GPA's – Above 3.6 UNWEIGHTED have the inside track for admission – Especially Black and Hispanic Students**
- **HS Grades 8 thru 11 – Should FOCUS on Career and GPA**
- **“Test Optional” will have a variety of meanings to a variety of colleges (Important for students with 2.8 to 3.5 GPA)**
 - *It may have relation to \$\$\$!!!*
 - *This makes parents think the SAT is a must along with prep*
 - *I say it is but let's not overdo it since there is the matter of COST and DEBT*

How Are Colleges Going to Decide?

- ***Unweighted GPA – Was Always More Important – Really is NOW!***
- ***Essays - Private Colleges – Public Universities are mostly “No Essay”
– Essay quality is a HS course selection and academic issue***
 - ***Some think it’s a matter of who reviews it - NOT***
- ***Leadership Activities – Private College Issue ONLY – Community
Based Organization Involvement will be more important than ever***
- ***Race & Gender – But Not the Way You Might Think!! (Social Justice
Considerations)***
- ***College Course History (Qualitative Not Quantitative)***