



# MERIT Minutes

"Maximizing Education to Realize Intellectual Transformation"

## SAT or ACT? What's the Difference?

Which should you take? Do colleges prefer one over the other?

Nearly every college and university will accept both the SAT and the ACT, so students are generally advised to try both and then focus on which test they perform best on. Here is a quick summary of the differences between them:

SAT	Test	ACT
\$49.50 without essay; \$64.50 with essay	<b>Cost</b>	\$46.00 without essay; \$62.50 with essay
200-800 per 2-part section, section scores are added to yield a total score of 400-1600	<b>Score range</b>	1-36 per section, section scores are averaged to yield a composite score of 1-36.
Reading and Writing, Math (with and without calculator)	<b>Sections</b>	English, Math, Reading, Science
154	<b># of questions</b>	215
180 minutes	<b>Total testing time, not including breaks and essay</b>	175 minutes
1200 out of 1600	<b>Zell Miller Scholarship score (from one sitting)</b>	Composite score of 26 out of 36
1300-1460	<b>Middle 50% of scores for admitted students at UGA in Class of 2023</b>	30-34
1400-1530	<b>Middle 50% of scores for admitted students at Ga Tech in Class of 2023</b>	31-34
First math part is no-calculator Math questions tend to be longer Math formulas are included	<b>Major differences between tests</b>	Can use calculator on all math questions Includes science section Contains more questions

➔ Colleges generally will use only your best scores in admissions decisions, so don't be afraid to submit both your ACT and SAT scores if you have taken both tests.



### Upcoming:

Monday, Dec. 2  
at 6:30 PM -  
Thomasville  
Christmas  
Parade

Sat., Dec. 7 -  
SAT at TCCHS

Saturday, Dec.  
14 - SWAYJ

Friday, Dec. 20  
- last day of  
school in 2019



**TIP:** Most colleges superscore - they will combine your best scores across different administrations of the same test.

## NEED MORE INFORMATION?

Stop by the TCCHS MERIT Office in E-3 to get your questions answered, or email TCCHS MERIT Coordinator Erin White at [ewhite@tcjackets.net](mailto:ewhite@tcjackets.net), or contact your Guidance Counselor.