

College Entrance Exams

Testing Requirements

Although standardized test scores are perhaps the last criteria colleges consider in the admissions process, some colleges use them as a means to see how students compare to other college-bound students in the country. They are also used as indicators of college success.

College Entrance Examination Board (CEEB) Code

Copenhagen Central School's CEEB code is **331-475**. This number is needed for almost all test registration forms and college applications.

Upcoming Test Dates

SAT: <https://satsuite.collegeboard.org/sat>

ACT: <http://www.actstudent.org/regist/dates.html>

PSAT/NMSQT

The Preliminary SAT and the National Merit Scholarship Qualifying Test is designed to provide practice for students in the fall of their junior year for the SAT. The test is used to select the top scholars in the country for Merit Scholarship awards. The test includes a Reading and Writing section and a Math section, identical to the SAT. After the test, students receive a score report which gives a detailed picture of how you did on the test, question by question. It also indicates how a student can expect to score on the SAT. The report gives individualized suggestions on how students can improve their scores. Score reports are distributed and interpreted in class by Mrs. Gillette.

SAT

The Scholastic Aptitude Test is a national exam that has been used by college admissions counselors to determine college preparedness for many years. They use it to project first-year college academic performance. Though the SAT has changed slightly over the years, it is still the most widely accepted college entrance exam. The SAT has four sections; two are "Reading and Writing" and two are "Math". The Reading and Writing sections include analogies, sentence completion, and critical reading. The Math sections include Grid-ins, quantitative comparisons, arithmetic, and algebra. Each section is assigned a score on a scale of 200-800 for a maximum combined score of 1600. The SAT should be taken in May or June of the junior year.

ACT

The ACT (American College Test) is another test that most schools will accept in place of the SAT. This is a battery of subject-related tests in English, math, social studies, *and science* that is growing in popularity. Students receive a score for each test as well as a composite score that ranges from 1-36.

ASVAB

The ASVAB (Armed Services Vocational Aptitude Battery) measures student knowledge in several content areas that the ACT and SAT do not. Though the ASVAB tests strengths in math and reading, it also identifies strengths in *mechanical skills*. Military recruiters use this assessment more than any other to identify students strengths and weaknesses. The ASVAB provides a "military score" that is used to determine which occupational area the recruit would fit best. To enlist in the military, students must score at least a 30 on the ASVAB. Students interested in military academies or ROTC (Reserve Officer Training Corps) must also take the ASVAB. In addition to an academic assessment, the ASVAB provides a career interest inventory for students to find careers that match their interests. The ASVAB is taken in the Fall of the junior year. Students then have the option of retaking the ASVAB during their senior year.

Test Preparation

At CCS, students are engaged in a rigorous academic program which develops their verbal and mathematical reasoning abilities that are measured by the SAT. The College Board provides very good practice materials at no cost in their booklets, *Taking the SAT Reasoning Test*. The College Board developed the test, and knows what strategies you need. More extensive books and software for independent preparation are available in the Counseling Center, CCS library, and in book stores. Generally, the best preparation is to work hard in your academic courses and to do extensive outside reading, including summer reading. The College Board and ACT also have on-line free test preparation at <http://www.collegeboard.com> and <http://www.act.org> respectively.

Remember: These college entrance exams do not claim to measure motivation, creativity, artistic skills, kindness, decency, sense of humor and other human qualities that colleges take into account when admitting students. These qualities are often much more important, which is why colleges look at the complete student's application when making decisions.

Testing Schedule:

PreACT- Grade 10

PSAT - Grade 11

ASVAB -Grade11

ACT - Grade 11 (March or April)

SAT I - Grade 11 (May or June)