

Huron High School

Testing Guide

<u>What?</u>	<u>When?</u>	<u>Why?</u>	<u>How Much?</u> <u>2008-2009</u>
PLAN (Preliminary ACT)	10th grade Fall/ November- December	PLAN helps 10th graders build a foundation for their future (college and career) and practice for the ACT. It is a comprehensive guidance resource that helps students measure their current academic development, explore career training options and make plans for their remaining years of high school and post-graduation years. PLAN also provides an approximate ACT score range. http://www.act.org/plan/	funded for all 10th graders by AAPS
PSAT (Preliminary Scholastic Aptitude Test & National Merit Scholarship Qualifying Test))	10th grade Fall/Early October	The PSAT/NMSQT includes five sections: Two 25-minute critical reading sections, Two 25-minute math sections and One 30-minute writing skills section on a scale of 20 (low) to 80 (high). It is a practice test for the SAT I and may help the student identify strengths and weaknesses. http://www.collegeboard.com/student/testing/psat/about.html PSAT/NMSQT scores are reported on a scale of 20 (low) to 80 (high) for each of the tests as well as a composite (average).	\$20
	11th grade Fall/Early October	The 11th grade PSAT results are used as qualifying scores for All National Merit Scholarship Programs . As well as many corporate and private scholarship programs. http://www.nationalmerit.org/ Also listed on your score report is the Selection Index, which is used to determine eligibility in National Merit Scholarship Corporation programs (NMSC). It is the sum of the three scores in each test section (CR + M + W). The Selection Index ranges from 60 to 240.	
MME (Michigan Merit Exam)	11th grade	This is the state-wide exam that replaced the MEAP. It includes a full version of the ACT +Writing, Work Keys job skills assessments in reading, mathematics, and "locating information" and Michigan-developed assessments in mathematics, science, and social studies. http://www.michigan.gov/mde/0,1607,7-140-22709_35150---,00.html MME Scores are used for the State of Michigan Promise Scholarship Program. All students who took the MME have the opportunity to receive up to \$4,000 if they meet all eligibility requirements. Michigan law now (9/18/08) says a student may not take the MME more than once. Some exceptions exist.	funded for all 11th graders by AAPS
ACT (American College Test)	11th & 12th grade	The ACT® test is considered America's Most Widely Accepted College Entrance Exam and assesses high school students' general educational development and their ability to complete college-level work. The ACT consists of four curriculum based multiple-choice tests that cover skill areas: English-grammar & usage, mathematics, reading, and science. The Writing-Essay Test, which is optional, measures skill in planning and writing a short essay. However, it is now required by many colleges. http://www.actstudent.org/index.html	ACT only \$31, ACT+Writing \$46, other fees may apply
		An interest inventory is also taken to help match students with work activities and the environment in which they demonstrate preference.	
		Scores are reported by a composite (average) score and each test score (English, Mathematics, Reading, Science) range from 1 (low) to 36 (high). The Composite Score is the average of your four test scores, rounded to the nearest whole number.	
		Tip: It's ok to guess on the ACT! Points awarded for all correct answers. No penalty for guessing wrong.	
		All Michigan and most US colleges accept these test results as one of their tools for determining college admissions.	
SAT I : Standard Reasoning Test (Scholastic Aptitude Test)	11th & 12th grade	The SAT tests students' knowledge of subjects that are necessary for college success: critical reading, writing (x2), and mathematics. The SAT assesses the critical thinking skills students needed for academic success in college. Skills that students learned in high school, including how they think, solve problems, and communicate. The SAT I consists of 3 multiple choice curriculum based achievements tests in the areas of Critical Reading, Writing-grammar & usage Math Reasoning as well as Writing-essay. http://www.collegeboard.com/student/testing/sat/about.html	\$45, other fees may also apply
		Each section of the SAT is scored on a scale of 200 (low) - 800 (high) for each of the 3 tests (reading, writing and math) with a writing subscore for the essay. A total score is also used on a range of 200 (low) to 1200 (high).	
		Many selective and private colleges accept these test results as one of their tools for determining college admissions.	
		Tip: Do not guess on multiple choice! Scoring of SAT takes away points for wrong answers. Null for items left blank. Points earned for correct answers only.	

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SAT II : Subject Area Test(s)	upon conclusion of a course or 12th grade.	Many highly competitive colleges, and or specific schools within a college require 2 or more subject area tests to assess the student's level of proficiency for placement purposes. Students must check with the college to see which tests are required for admission. (ie: an Engineering college may require math and physics)	\$20, other fees may also apply
AP Tests (Advanced Placement)	upon completion of an AP Course/May	AP testing is a way for students to earn college credit prior to entering college. It may also be a factor in considering admissions to some highly selective colleges. Scores are reported on a range of 1 (low) to 5 (high). Colleges grant differing amounts of credit based on the course/test and the individual colleges standards. http://www.collegeboard.com/student/testing/ap/about.html	\$86
ASVAB (Armed Services Vocational Aptitude Battery)	11th or 12th grade	First, you DO NOT have to be interested in the Armed Forces to participate in the ASVAB!	sponsored by the US Armed Forces
		The ASVAB Career Exploration program provides tools to help high school and post-secondary students across the nation learn more about career exploration and planning. It is a comprehensive career planning and exploration program that includes multiple aptitude test battery, an interest inventory and various career planning tools designed to help students explore the world of work. The 8 ASVAB test areas are; General Science, Arithmetic Reasoning, Word Knowledge, Paragraph Comprehension, Mathematics knowledge, Electronics Information, Auto & Shop Information and Mechanical Comprehension. http://www.asvabprogram.com/	
		Results of the test enable students to evaluate their skills, estimate their performance in academic and vocational endeavors and identify potentially satisfying careers. These results are integrated with work values to help students identify and prioritize potential career choices. Students are encouraged to consider their own work values and other important personal preferences as they explore the world of work and learn career exploration skills that will benefit them throughout their work lives.	
<i>College Placement Tests</i>	<i>orientation, upon entering college</i>	<i>Colleges may require a placement test to help insure that students are in correct level of programming. These placement tests are for reference and placement only and should not have bearing on admissions to the college. (ie: WCC takes the COMPASS test.) Check with individual college for more information.</i>	<i>sponsored by individual college</i>

Students are responsible for requesting that official test scores be submitted to the colleges to which they are applying. Please know that the school will need a "release of records" signed at the beginning of senior year as part of the registration process. This "release of records" allows/prevents the school to send test scores to the colleges along with transcripts. However, test scores sent by the school are not considered official records.