

## STANDARDIZED TESTS INFORMATION 2011-12

As the beginning of the Fall Semester nears East Campus students and parents frequently have questions regarding the national standardized test that are given each year at Lockport Township High School and in the Will County region. Below is a summary of information on these tests.

### ACT

The ACT measures a student's academic achievement in English, math, reading and science. The results of the ACT helps students assess their overall academic achievement and are used to determine college admissions and scholarship awards. The ACT is offered nationwide six times a year. These are referred to as National ACT Tests. LTHS works with ACT, Inc. to administer a Saturday morning ACT in September, October, February and June. The test is offered at other area schools during the months of December and April.

Test Date	Registration Deadline	(Late Fee Required)
September 10, 2011	August 12, 2011	August 13 – 26, 2011
October 22, 2011	September 16, 2011	September 17 – 30, 2011
December 10, 2011	November 4, 2011	November 5 – 18, 2011
February 11, 2012*	January 13, 2012	January 14 – 20, 2012
April 14, 2012	March 9, 2012	March 10 – 23, 2012
June 9, 2012	May 4, 2012	May 5 – 18, 2012

To register for any of these test dates visit [www.act.org](http://www.act.org) online or contact the Guidance Services office.

The State of Illinois also requires all juniors in Illinois to take the ACT exam as part of the Prairie State Achievement Exam in April. This test is referred to as a State ACT Test. The high school automatically registers students and administers this test. Juniors do not need register with ACT, Inc. for the State ACT test. The State ACT can also be used by students for college admissions and scholarships.

Any student who is considering going to college should take the ACT and may sign up to take the test on any date that it is offered. ACT recommends taking the test second semester of the student's junior year. However, many students take the test earlier in their junior year as a realistic practice experience and to determine what areas they need to work on to improve their academic achievement and their ACT score. Seniors who have taken a previous ACTs and want to improve their score should retake it in September in order to have results in time to be used with college applications.

Please refer to the ACT website, [www.act.org](http://www.act.org), for current costs of the ACT test. There is an additional fee if a student chooses to take the writing portion of the ACT. If a student fails to register by the deadline, they may register by a late registration deadline by paying an extra fee. The Lockport school code needed in completing application materials is **142655**.

## **PSAT**

The Preliminary SAT measures a student's skills in critical reading, mathematics, and writing. It is designed to be a practice test for the SAT test which is used by colleges for admission and scholarship decisions. The PSAT is also the National Merit Scholarship Qualifying Test (NMSQT) for juniors.

Sophomores and juniors who plan on going to college should take the PSAT. The test is practice for sophomores and is the NMSQT for juniors. Students can only take the PSAT once their sophomore year and once their junior year.

The 2011 PSAT/NMSQT test date for LTHS is:

Saturday, October 15.

You must sign up for the PSAT/NMSQT in the Guidance Office for this test. LTHS administers the PSAT on Saturday, October 15. Students who are involved in LTHS athletic competitions or performances on this date may request to test on Wednesday October 12 at another school if space is available. However, these opportunities are very limited and cannot be guaranteed. Online registration for the PSAT/NMSQT is **not** available. Registration is handled only through the Guidance Services office. Announcements will be made in the fall when registration forms are available.

LTHS hosts the PSAT 240, a prep class offered by ExcelEdge, Inc., for academically motivated juniors. Information and registration forms are sent home during the summer. Please note that signing up for this course does not automatically sign a student up for the actual test.

For College Board to release the student's score, the student must include the LTHS high school code (**142655**) on the registration sheet. Two copies of the score report will be sent to the school. The student receives one copy and the guidance counselor keeps the other copy of the score report.

For more information on the PSAT and the NMSQT go to [www.collegeboard.org](http://www.collegeboard.org).

## **SAT**

The College Board's Scholastic Aptitude Test (SAT) is a test that is used by colleges to compare students for admissions and scholarship decisions regardless of the high school curriculum taken by the student. The SAT tests the student's skills in reading, writing and math.

While the SAT is accepted by all colleges, students who are planning to attend an East or West coast college should take the SAT. To find out if a college you are considering prefers the SAT you should contact the college directly or see your counselor. Schools that use the SAT may require both the Reasoning Test (SAT I) and Subject Tests (SAT II).

***LTHS does not offer the SAT on site***, but registration packets are available in the Guidance Services office. To see when other local schools may offer the test, please visit the College Board website, [www.collegeboard.org](http://www.collegeboard.org) The SAT will be administered on the following dates for 2011-2012:

2011-12 Test Dates	Test	U.S. Registration Deadlines	
		Regular	Late (a fee applies)
October 1, 2011	SAT & Subject Tests	September 9, 2011	September 21, 2011
November 5, 2011	SAT & Subject Tests	October 7, 2011	October 21, 2011
December 3, 2011	SAT & Subject Tests	November 8, 2011	November 20, 2011
January 28, 2012	SAT & Subject Tests	December 30, 2011	January 13, 2012
March 10, 2012	SAT only	February 10, 2012	February 24, 2012
May 5, 2012	SAT & Subject Tests	April 6, 2012	April 20, 2012
June 2, 2012	SAT & Subject Tests	May 8, 2012	May 22, 2012

To see what Subject Tests are offered on each test date, the closest test site, test costs and other SAT information students should visit the College Board website, [www.collegeboard.org](http://www.collegeboard.org). Students can register online at [www.collegeboard.org](http://www.collegeboard.org) or registration packets are available in the Guidance Services office. Lockport's school code is **142655**.