

# Reasons colleges want you to take tests:

- Admission into the college
- Appropriate placement in college classes
- Competing for scholarships
- Selecting students for honors programs

Tests required for a 4 year  
College:

**ACT Or SAT**



# ACT

- **Generally required by schools in the midwest**
- Achievement test in English, math, reading, science
- **Content of test is tied to the curriculum studied in high school**
- Optional writing section
- **Scores are averaged to create a composite score; a perfect score is 36**
- Students generally take the test in the spring of the junior year and the fall of the senior year
- **No penalty in scoring for guessing on an answer**



# SAT

- **Generally required by schools on the east or west coast**
- **Assesses how well you analyze and solve problems**
- **Measures verbal, writing and math reasoning skills**
- **Students generally take the test in the spring of the junior year and fall of the senior year**
- **Scores on each section range from 200 to 800, with two writing subscores**
- **Scores are combined for a composite; a perfect score is 1600**
- **Students make educated guesses on which questions to answer, as questions can be skipped and an average score can still be obtained**



# PLAN

- Covers the same areas as the ACT
- Prepares students for the ACT
- Includes an interest inventory to help you determine career interests
- Students take it in the fall of their sophomore year
- Helps you to pick high school courses



# PSAT

- **Stands for Preliminary Scholastic Aptitude Test/National Merit Scholarship Qualifying Test**
- Covers critical reading skills, math problem-solving skill, and writing skills
- **Is similar to the SAT, and serves as practice for it**
- Taken by juniors in October
- **Used to compete for scholarships**
- Score reports



# ASVAB

- **Stands for Armed Services Vocational Aptitude Battery**
- An aptitude is a capability that you have developed through education or experience that indicates your readiness to do well in certain types of activities
- **Scores are used for entrance into the military**
- Scores are tied to explore possible careers
- **Eight subtests cover General Science, Arithmetic Reasoning, Work Knowledge, Paragraph Comprehension, Mathematics Knowledge, Electronics Information, Auto and Shop Information and Mechanical Comprehension**

-Free!



# ASSET/COMPASS

- Used by two year colleges to place students into the correct level of English, and math classes
- Three tests measure basic skills in writing, reading, and numerical reasoning
- Asset is completed in a paper/pencil format, and the Compass is completed on the computer
- Given free by the colleges a student is admitted to
- If the scores need to be sent to a different college there is a fee
- Taken during the senior year after being admitted to the college

