

Sammamish High School Parent Teacher Association
ACT/SAT Prep Course
Frequently Asked Questions

The ACT and SAT are standardized test used by many colleges as part of their admissions determination. To help our high school students prepare for these examinations, the SHS PTSA is delighted to sponsor an ACT/SAT Prep Course. The course is offered twice each school year, once in the Fall (generally in September/ October) and once in the Spring (generally in March).

The course consists of 3 subjects: Math, Verbal, and Science. Each section consists of 4 classes taught one week apart (to be confirmed prior to session start).

	Day	Time	Teacher	Fall Dates	Spring Dates
Science	Monday	7:00 – 8:00 PM	Jessica Youmans	9/27, 10/4, 10/11, 10/18	3/7, 3/14, 3/21, 3/28
Math	Tuesday	6:30 – 8:00 PM	Lorinda Flikkema	9/28, 10/5, 10/12, 10/19	3/8, 3/15, 3/22, 3/29
Verbal	Thursday	6:30 – 7:30 PM	Stephanie Ritchie	9/30, 10/7, 10/14, 10/21	3/10, 3/17, 3/24, 3/31

Q Is this the course that was taught in previous years as SAT / ACT Prep?

A Yes. The Math and Verbal sections have been developed to cover strategies that apply to both the SAT and ACT examinations. Science is specific to the ACT test.

Q What is the benefit of taking the course?

A The primary benefit of taking the course is to gain a structure for ACT and/or SAT examination preparation. While there is some limited topic specific instruction, the primary focus of the course is on study skills, examination strategy, and test taking techniques.

Q What will the course cover?

A The course will cover:

- Exercises and drills;
- Question-reading strategies: How to efficiently determine what is being asked and how to find it in the text;
- Practice-test evaluation: What answers did you not get correct, and why?
- Where to best spend your study, and test-taking time;
- In the case of the math section, exam related general math instruction;
- In the case of the science section, instruction in essential science practices (ex: interpreting data or making a claim from evidence), and
- In the case of the verbal section, essay prompt practice, including sample essay evaluation and scoring rubric analysis, and some score-increasing tips.

Q Who should take the course?

A The course is open to all high school students. However, the course is most beneficial for Juniors preparing to sit for their first ACT or SAT examination and for Seniors taking one more examination before the completion of their college applications.

Q Can Freshmen and Sophomores benefit from taking the course?

A Since the course is primarily an examination skills course, the most benefit comes from taking the course zero to 6 months before you sit for the examination. However, Freshmen and Sophomores have reported benefits from taking the course prior to sitting for the PSAT (pre-SAT), or the PLAN (pre-ACT) examinations.

Q I only plan to take the SAT examination. Should I take the Science section?

A The Science section is only applicable to the ACT examination so if you plan to only take the SAT examination, the Science section is not necessary.

Q What is the cost to attend the course?

A The cost to attend is \$50 for one section; \$90 for any two sections; or \$120 for all three sections.

Q When is the course offered?

A The course is offered twice each school year, once in the Fall (generally in October) and once in the Spring (generally in March). Students should plan ahead and consider conflicts with extracurricular activities when deciding when to take the course. Check the SHS PTSA website, www.sammamishptsa.org, for this school year's dates.

Q Are there scholarships available to help offset the cost of the course?

A Yes! The SHS PTSA is offering partial scholarships to Sammamish students with financial need. The scholarship rate is a flat fee of \$30 regardless of the number of sections selected. Your counselor's signature on a paper registration form is necessary to qualify for the scholarship rate. Paper registration forms can be found in the SHS office or downloaded from www.sammamishptsa.org and printed.

Q How do I register for the course?

A You can register with a credit / debit card by using PayPal. Find the PayPal link under "ACT/SAT Prep Course" on the SHS PTSA website, www.sammamishptsa.org.

Q Can I register with cash or a check?

A Please try to use the PayPal link found on the SHS PTSA website, www.sammamishptsa.org to pay by debit or credit card. If you cannot pay using the PayPal link, please email sat.prep@sammamishptsa.org so that we can make an alternate plan for you pay.

Q Do I need to purchase separate study material for the course?

A All study materials are provided in class by the instructor. There is no requirement to purchase additional materials.

Q How large are the classes and where are they held?

A Sessions for the Fall 2021 and Spring 2022 will be held on-line. Prior to the first session, your teachers will send out an online invite.

Q I'm involved in an extracurricular activity and I will be late to or miss at least one class. Is it still worthwhile to take the course?

A Helpful material is provided in each class so any time that you can attend is worthwhile. Also, the instructors are happy to provide you with any material you have missed - just ask! The course fee will not be prorated for a missed class. Classes will also be recorded for your reference.

Q When does enrollment open and close?

A Enrollment for both the fall and spring courses opens shortly after the beginning of the school year. Enrollment is open until the earlier of the first day of the applicable section or until the applicable section is filled.

Q Is the course open to students that do not attend Sammamish High School?

A Yes, but Sammamish High School students receive priority.

Q How will I know if I'm enrolled in the course?

A Students are enrolled in the order that their payment is received. Enrollment confirmations will be sent to the email address you provide with your registration approximately 1 week prior to the start of the course.

Q Who do I contact if I have questions?

A For questions related to course content, please contact an instructor. For registration or administrative questions please email sat.prep@sammamishptsa.org.

Q How do I register for the actual ACT or SAT examination?

A Register for the ACT examination online at www.act.org. Register for the SAT examination online at www.collegeboard.com.