



The SAT vs. The ACT: Testing Essentials

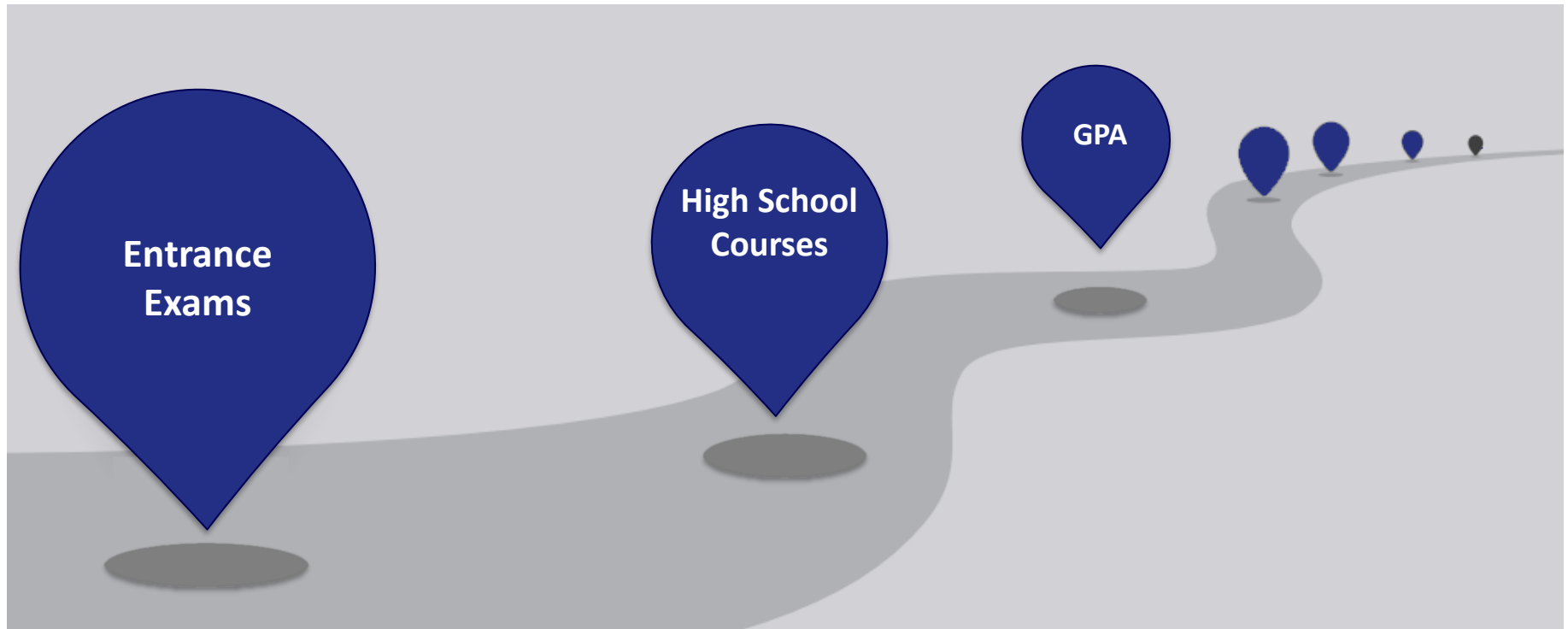
KAPLAN TEST PREP

Why Are These Tests Important?

Your Path to College



College!



FACT:

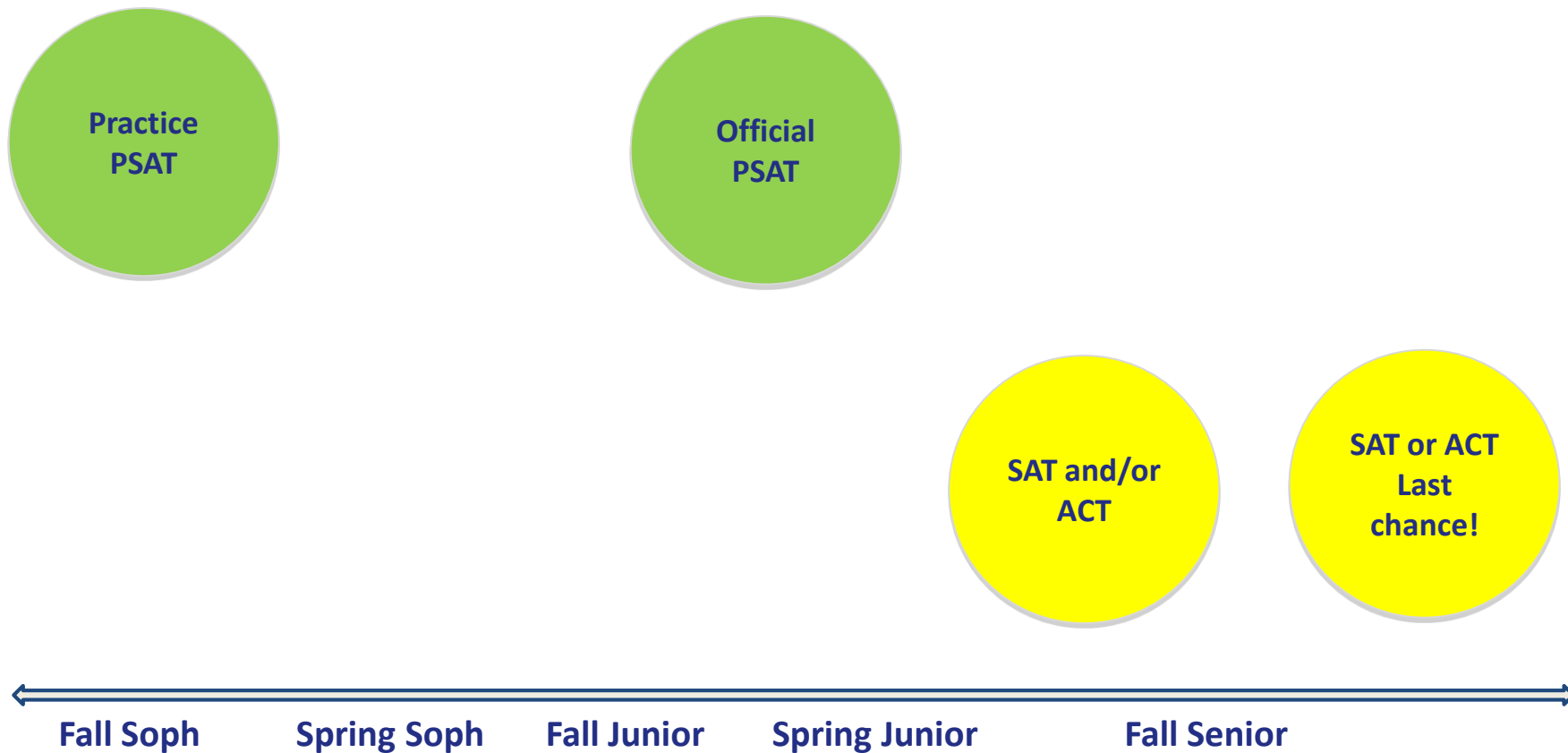
The **2 greatest factors** that determine merit-based aid are SAT[®] or ACT[®] scores and high school grades.

There is **\$11 billion** in merit-based aid to help pay for college.

Source: Calculated using the average institutional no-need and merit grant figure in National Postsecondary Student Aid Study by the National Center for Education Statistics and the number of students receiving that type of aid, which was approximately 2.1 million; 2008 NACAC Discussion Paper, Financial Aid and Admission: Tuition Discounting, Merit Aid and Need-aware Admission

KAPLAN TEST PREP

Test Taking Timeline



Let's Get to Know the PSAT, SAT & ACT

Difference between the PSAT, SAT & ACT

SAT & ACT

Used for college admissions

Used for scholarships + merit-based grants

Can retake several times

Colleges accept both

Usually taken Spring of junior year + Fall of senior year

Approx three to four hours long

Optional essay

No wrong answer penalty

PSAT

Used for scholarships

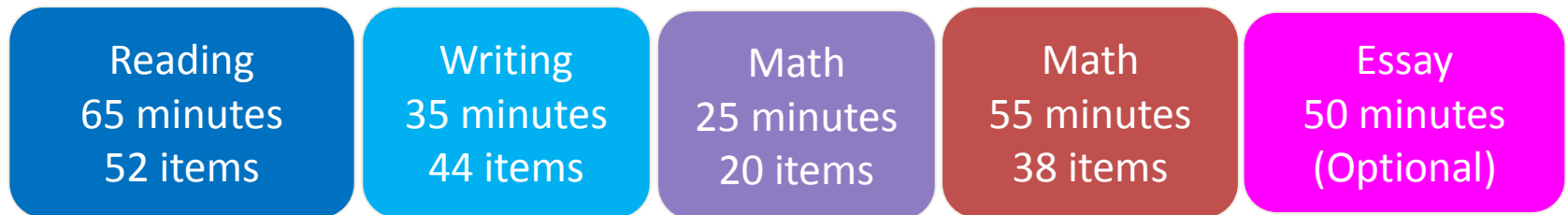
Can only officially be taken once

Taken in Oct of junior year

Helps prepare for SAT

SAT at a glance

Structure	Sections: Evidence-based Reading Evidence-based Writing Math (without calculator) Math (with calculator) Essay (optional)
Scoring	Total Score: 1600 (Reading + Writing = 800, Math + Math = 800)
Sundry	No guessing penalty Optional essay scored separately



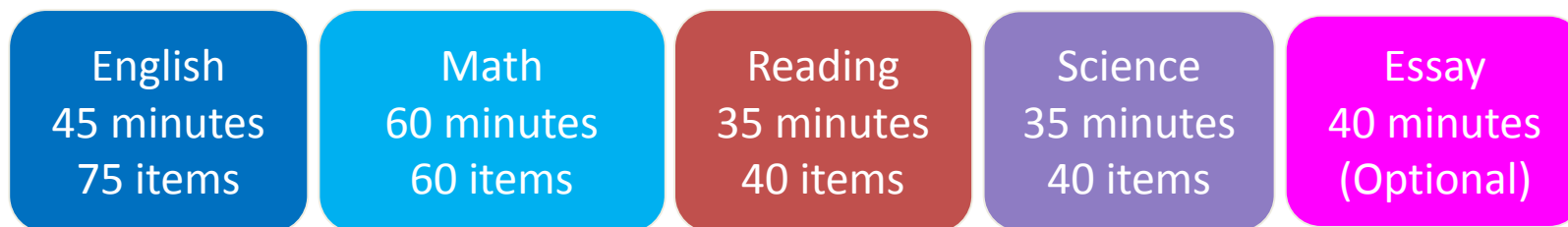
Total Time: 3hrs 50min
(With optional essay)

What schools recommend/require the SAT essay

- <https://blog.prepscholar.com/schools-that-require-the-sat-essay>

ACT at a glance

Structure	Sections: English Math Reading Science Essay (optional)
Scoring	Total Score: 36 (each section worth 36, averaged for total)
Sundry	No guessing penalty Optional essay scored separately



Total Time: 3hrs 35min
(Without essay: 2hrs 55 min)

SAT and ACT: Notable Differences

ACT?

SAT?

What's the Difference?

	SAT	ACT
Reading	More Social Studies Reading	More Science Reading
Math	More data analysis	More geometry
	No calculator section	Calculator use allowed
Scoring	50% math, 50% verbal	25% math, 50% verbal 25% science

The best way to know is to take a practice test!

Common Myths

- The ACT is easier
- Only take the ACT if you're good at science
- Competitive schools only accept the SAT
- I have great grades so I'll do well on the SAT or ACT without studying.

Your Next Steps

Junior Year

- PSAT in October for National Merit Qualification
- Focus on Academics – this is a critical year!
- Take Kaplan combo PT
- Research admissions requirements for target, reach, and safety schools
- Prepare for the SAT or ACT
- Take AP and Subject Tests

Senior Year

- Take the SAT and/or ACT for the last time
- Take AP and Subject Tests
- Request recommendation letters
- Complete college applications
- Fill out FAFSA
- Research scholarships
- Keep your grades up!

How Do I Decide Which Test to Take?

Free SAT/ACT Combo
Practice Test

kaptest.com/hsevents

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Not Harder**

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Starting at \$2599



Take a Kaplan SAT or ACT course at Moorestown High School

- **In preparation for March SAT**
- **What:** Kaplan SAT course (10 sessions)
When: Wed. Jan. 30, 2019 – Wed. Feb. 27, 2019
Time: Wednesdays & Saturdays at 6PM
Where: Moorestown High School
Class Code: SAIKS19052
- Register at kaptest.com
- Save \$100 off at checkout by using SCHOOL100
only for MHS

Thank You!

Questions?

Ashley LaFrance, SRM

ashley.lafrance@kaplan.com

Please visit us at <https://www.kaptest.com/college-prep/journey-to-college>