

## PREPARING FOR LIFE AFTER HIGH SCHOOL: WHAT EXAMS DO YOU NEED?

Whether you are planning to attend a four-year college, a two-year community college, a trade school program, join the military, or start working right after high school, you will need to take at least one exam before you graduate from high school... and possibly many more. What are these exams? When should you take them? How do you sign up? And how can you prepare? Here's a handy guide to the exams students must take to graduate from high school and prepare for life after high school.

TEST NAME	WHAT IS IT?	WHO SHOULD TAKE IT?	WHEN TO TAKE IT?	HOW DO I REGISTER?	HOW CAN I PREPARE?
<b>TO GRADUATE FROM HIGH SCHOOL</b>					
<b>STATE EXAMS: HSPE and End-of-Course (EOC) Exams</b> <a href="#">Web info</a>	State-required exams in reading, writing, math and science	All students must pass the required exams or complete an accepted alternative to graduate from high school	Spring of sophomore year or at end of relevant course (test dates are set by State of Washington)	RHS registers and schedules students. All exams are held at RHS.	Do well in your classes at school
<b>TO ATTEND A FOUR-YEAR COLLEGE</b>					
<b>Preliminary SAT (PSAT)</b> <a href="#">Web info</a>	Test to help students prepare for the SAT and to qualify for the National Merit Scholarship program	Students who want to attend a four-year college	Fall of junior year ( <i>3<sup>rd</sup> Saturday of October or the Wednesday before. RHS usually schedules on the Wednesday date</i> )	RHS organizes registration – students pay the school bookkeeper to sign up	Many students take the PSAT in the fall of sophomore year to prepare. There are many workbooks and test prep classes too
<b>SAT</b> <a href="#">Web info</a>	College entrance exam in critical reading, math and writing. Max score of 800 points on each section	Most four-year colleges require either the SAT or the ACT. Check with your college choices to find out	During junior year or fall of senior year; tests are scheduled on Saturdays	Register online at <a href="http://www.collegeboard.org">www.collegeboard.org</a>	There are many workbooks and test prep classes. The RHS PTSA organizes “mock” SATs each year
<b>ACT</b> <a href="#">Web info</a>	College entrance exam in English, math, reading, and science (optional writing exam). Max score is 36	Most four-year colleges require either the SAT or the ACT. Check with your college choices to find out	During junior year or fall of senior year; tests are scheduled on Saturdays	Register online at <a href="http://www.actstudent.org">www.actstudent.org</a>	There are many workbooks and test prep classes. The RHS PTSA organizes “practice” ACTs each year

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<b>TO ATTEND A FOUR-YEAR COLLEGE</b>					
<b>SAT Subject Tests</b> <a href="#">Web info</a>	Tests to allow students to show colleges their knowledge of specific subjects; 20 different subjects offered	Students who want to attend a four-year college	Take at the end of the relevant course, tests are scheduled on Saturdays	Register online at <a href="http://www.collegeboard.org">www.collegeboard.org</a>	Do well in your classes at school. In addition, there are many workbooks and test prep classes
<b>Advanced Placement (AP)</b> <a href="#">Web info</a>	Tests to allow students to qualify for college credit or higher placement for their work in AP classes	Students who are enrolled in an AP class at school	In May of the year of your AP class; tests are scheduled in May during the school day	Your AP teacher will tell you how to register	Do well in your classes. There are many AP workbooks
<b>Academic Placement Testing Program (AFTP)</b> <a href="#">Web info</a>	Math test to place students in appropriate college math class	Students enrolling in a Washington State college or university	Spring of senior year or start of freshman year	Enroll starting in February through your college: <a href="#">More info</a>	Review math content from Algebra to Pre Calculus
<b>TO ATTEND A COMMUNITY OR TECHNICAL COLLEGE</b>					
<b>ASSET Placement Exam</b> <a href="#">Web info</a>	Tests in writing, reading, and math	Students enrolling in community college	During junior or senior year	Usually administered by the college	Do well in your classes
<b>COMPASS Exam</b> <a href="#">Web info</a>	Tests in writing, reading, and math	Students enrolling in community college	During senior year or freshman orientation	Usually administered by the college	Do well in your classes
<b>ACCUPLACER Exam</b> <a href="#">Web info</a>	Computerized tests in English, math, and ESL	Students enrolling in community college	During senior year or freshman orientation	Usually administered by the college	Do well in your classes
<b>TO JOIN THE MILITARY</b>					
<b>Armed Services Vocational Aptitude Battery (ASVAB)</b> <a href="#">Web info</a>	Department of Defense test to assess new recruits' abilities	Students who plan to enlist in the military	Prior to enlistment	Administered by recruiting officers (RHS occasionally offers an ASVAB on campus)	Do well in your classes