

How to prepare for the SAT

By Kelly Shelburne

Nervous about standardized tests?

While the SAT standardized test is one of the most frustrating and important aspects of the college process, students have access to a wide range of resources for them to feel prepared.

When colleges make their acceptance decisions, the SAT scores could be the deciding factor between two students with equal standings, Emily Brown, senior admissions counselor, said.

Preparations for the test begin throughout sophomore year in high school. Programs like SAT prep classes, tutoring, and even practice tests are available for students during this time through school programs.

“I started getting tutored for the SAT when I was a sophomore and continued throughout my junior year,” Hannah Feeley, a college junior, said. “I took advantage of the practice tests and ended up sending my scores to all the colleges I was applying to.”

Tutors are the most sufficient way to prepare for the test. Getting first hand advice from someone who has already been through the process will enhance your understanding of how the test works.

The College Board website is where students can register for upcoming tests as well as use the available resources on the site. From practice tests, word of the day, study plans, and helpful tips, this website will fully prepare students through an interactive way.

Students can pay to take the SAT as many times as needed to receive the best scores. Highest scores should be compiled by the end the summer before senior year to be sent to colleges. Although some colleges give you the option of sending in your scores, students should send them in if they are a good representation of their academic standing.

The more you take advantage of the available resources, the better scores you will receive.