

# Whitefield Academy Standardized Testing

## 2019-2020

Whitefield Academy provides annual testing for all students in 1<sup>st</sup>-11<sup>th</sup> grades. The purpose of standardized testing at Whitefield is to have a tool to accomplish the following:

- Evaluate the effectiveness of our **processes and curriculum**
- Track **individual achievement** and identify areas of growth and challenges
- Assess the progress of **group achievements**
  - by grade
    - “How did this year’s 4th grade class scores compare to the 4th grades classes of 2016-2017 and 2017-2018?”
  - by class
    - “How did this year’s fourth graders do when they were in 2nd grade and in 3rd grade?”
- Provide statistically **relevant data** to be used by teachers for **continuous improvement**

The goals of the testing program are as follows:

- To provide **students** with relevant tests and a testing environment that encourages them to perform to the best of their testing ability
- To provide **teachers** with actionable data so they can evaluate and enhance student achievement and to provide appropriate feedback so they can inform and counsel parents
- To provide **parents** with the tools to equip their students to perform to the best of their testing ability and receive meaningful feedback

Please feel free to contact Carol Nichols, Testing Coordinator, at [cnichols@whitefieldacademy.org](mailto:cnichols@whitefieldacademy.org) with general questions regarding testing at Whitefield.

Below are the tests and dates scheduled for 2019-2020.

Test	Test Date	Grades	Registration	WEBSITE
Educational Records Bureau (ERB) CTP Test	Practice Tests: March 30- April 2 Tests: April 6-9. Make-up Test: April 14-17	1 <sup>st</sup> – 7 <sup>th</sup>	Registered for and paid for by WA	<a href="https://www.erblearn.org/">https://www.erblearn.org/</a>
PSAT 8/9	Wed, March 25	8th - 9th	Registered for and paid for by WA	<a href="https://collegereadiness.collegeboard.org/psat-8-9#menu">https://collegereadiness.collegeboard.org/psat-8-9#menu</a>
PSAT/ NMSQT	Wed, Oct 16	10 <sup>th</sup> - 11 <sup>th</sup>	Registered for and paid for by WA	<a href="https://collegereadiness.collegeboard.org/psat-nmsqt-psat-10">https://collegereadiness.collegeboard.org/psat-nmsqt-psat-10</a>
AP English Language and Composition	Wed, May 18	12 <sup>th</sup>	To register, students must submit a check for \$94 to WA by Oct 4 or register online by clicking here. Cost after Oct 5 is \$134.	<a href="https://apcentral.collegeboard.org/courses/ap-english-language-and-composition/course">https://apcentral.collegeboard.org/courses/ap-english-language-and-composition/course</a>
CLT (optional)	Wed, Oct 2	12 <sup>th</sup>	Registered for and paid for by WA	<a href="https://cltexam.org">https://cltexam.org</a>
ACT	Oct 26, Dec 14, Feb 8, April 4, June 13, July 18	11 <sup>th</sup> /12 <sup>th</sup>	Students register directly with ACT. Fees \$52-\$68 plus change and/or late fees.	<a href="http://www.act.org/content/act/en/products-and-services/the-act.html">http://www.act.org/content/act/en/products-and-services/the-act.html</a>
SAT	Oct 5, Nov 5, Dec 7, March 14, May 2, June 6	11 <sup>th</sup> /12 <sup>th</sup>	Students register directly with College Board. Fees: \$49.50-\$69.50 plus change/late/phone registration fees	<a href="https://collegereadiness.collegeboard.org/sat">https://collegereadiness.collegeboard.org/sat</a>
College Level Examination Program (CLEP)	Student schedules date on-line at one of the 12 testing sites in KC	11 <sup>th</sup> /12 <sup>th</sup>	Students register directly with College Board. Each test is \$89. Testing sites may charge an admin fee.	<a href="https://clep.collegeboard.org/">https://clep.collegeboard.org/</a>

## Other Resources

### Practice ACT and SAT

Practice ACT and SAT tests provided through Blue Valley Rec. Fee is \$25 for Johnson County residents and \$31 for non-resident. It is recommended that students take both the SAT and ACT practice tests to determine which is most advantageous.

Sign up at [here](#). There are 5 dates for ACT and 3 for SAT, and they are booked on a first come, first served basis.

### Online Study Guides

There are many free online study guides to help your student prepare for any of the upper school tests. [Kahn Academy](#) is recommended for the SAT/PSAT. Click here for a [downloadable paper PSAT/NMSQT and PSAT 8/9](#). There are many online prep sites for the ACT.

### ACT vs. SAT

Almost all colleges accept both the ACT and SAT tests for admissions and scholarship consideration. Which test is best for your student? First confirm with colleges your student is considering that both are accepted. Read the articles below and other research you find. An excellent way to determine which test showcases your student's strengths is to take both practice tests and compare both the results and your student's comfort level with each test.

<https://blog.prepscholar.com/act-vs-sat>

<https://www.studypoint.com/ed/act-vs-sat/>

<https://www.usnews.com/education/best-colleges/articles/act-vs-sat-how-to-decide-which-test-to-take>

### Why Students Must Practice Outside of School

- Most tests follow Common Core Curriculum
- Tests follow strategies not common in classroom tests but learned through practice
- Tests require specialized pacing and endurance
- Each test uses a “language” particular to the test which students learn through practice
- Average public school student take 112 standardized tests between K-12\*. Average public school eighth-graders spend an average of 25.3 hours during the school year taking standardized tests.\*\* (If each section of the ERB test is considered a “test”, WA students take approximately 35 tests between K-12. WA eighth-graders spend 3 hours taking standardized tests.)

- High ACT/SAT scores open opportunities to a wide variety of colleges, military academies, and honors programs.
- High ACT/SAT scores are a pathway to scholarship money.
- AP Scores of 4 or 5 and CLEP scores of 50-63 earn college credit, saving time and money

\*CBS News.

\*\*Washington Post