

# Seniors: Register for all Applicable Fall SAT, ACT, and Subject Tests

By Mick Rosenblum

Hopefully, you have determined which colleges you are interested in attending and know which admissions tests (SAT, ACT, and/or SAT Subject Tests) you are required to take. Now you are faced with the dilemma of when to take those tests.

If you do not have to take (or retake) any of your SAT Subject tests, and are left with the SAT Reasoning and the ACT tests only, then I recommend you sign up and pay for all remaining SAT Reasoning Test dates and ACT test dates offered this fall. This does not mean that you will have to attend all of those test sittings; it merely means that you have reserved the opportunity to take whichever tests you need. Essentially, you will have purchased an inexpensive insurance policy against unforeseen conflicts.

Here's a relatively common scenario: A student has applied for the October and November SAT dates only. After a less than stellar performance on the October SAT, he works diligently toward improving his score on the November test. The morning of the November sitting, however, the student wakes up with the flu (or has some other conflict) and either cannot attend or does not perform well on the test. In that case, for all intents and purposes, he has run out of reliable SAT options (the "Waitlist" is not, necessarily, dependable). If the student had signed up for the December test sitting, however, he would have had an additional SAT opportunity. The same strategy applies to ACT and SAT Subject Test scheduling.

Incidentally, if you have to either take or retake the SAT Subject Tests this fall, you will have to sacrifice one of the SAT Reasoning test dates in order to take those Subject Tests. If you have any questions or would like some sound advice, please feel free to call me before you run out of time and options.