

## College admissions: What You Need to Know

Most students and their parents worry about getting into college, and worry more about getting into a good college. Many people have their own idea as to what colleges look for in potential students and how college admissions decide on who gets to attend their school. Of course, what type of student you are will influence what worries you most about getting into college.

Colleges say that about 35 to 50% of their decision is based on your high school record. A few things that colleges say will influence their decision are what courses you took and how well you did in those courses.

And yes, they do look at whether or not you took difficult courses and how well you handled them, they will check to see if your grades improved during high school, as well as whether or not you let your grades slide a little during your senior year.

Colleges also admit that approximately 25-40% of their admissions decision comes down to test scores. Both the ACT and SAT test are used to sort applicants, demonstrating how well you can handle problem solving, reading and other basic skills.

This is one reason why SAT test preparation is vital if you want to do well and improve your SAT test score. They will check out your activities and other accomplishments. Their decision is influenced anywhere from 5 to 20% on these factors.

Approximately 5 to 20% of a college's decision may be based on your activities and accomplishments while in high school, believing that if you were a leader in high school, then you are likely to continue to be so in college.

They want to know what you are like as a person, something that SATS tests cannot tell them. They want to know what is important to you, what type of personality you have and to determine your greatest strengths and weaknesses.

Taking SAT preparation classes and a few practice SATs tests improves your chance of getting a higher grade and that along with taking AP (advanced placement) courses shows the college admissions what you are capable of and that you are serious about furthering your education. This is essential if you already have a particular school in mind, as the grades and whole high school time period are under scrutiny.

## About the Author

Your [Education Guide](#) aims to make it easier to find the right college. You'll find [SAT prep](#) information, student loan advice and other college help.

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