

Good SAT Score

Â A Good SAT SCORE? A good score is any score that gets you into the college of your choice! A SAT score is not an absolute value. It is a scaled score to indicate your performance in comparison with that of the other 2 million students who take this test every year. Your scores can go up and down according to how you feel on the day of the test or how well you have prepared. Parents need to be warned that it is not an absolute indicator of their child's intelligence. That said, on a total score of 1600 (800 verbal, 800 math) a score of 1150-1250 is adequate for many colleges. A score of 1250-1350 is good, and a score above 1350 should ensure that you have no problems for admission. Generally speaking, scoring close to the mean (average)-about 500 on verbal and 500 on math-tells you that you scored as well as about half of the students who took the test. Because no single score can tell everything about how you performed on the test, the score reports sent to colleges also include percentiles and score ranges. SAT scores range from 200 to 800 points in each of the Verbal and Math areas of the SAT, or a total score of up to 1600 points. Since only about 20 of the over 1,000,000 students who take the SAT each year get a perfect score, how do you figure out what a good score for you would be? There are two good ways **1. Find out what the college you desire to attend requires.** This can be in terms of a minimum SAT score or an average score for admitted Freshman.

You can get this information by either calling the school's Admissions Office directly or by buying (or looking at) a book in your local book store or library. These books are usually found in the Reference section and distributed by a variety of publishers or can be found on the Internet using the links below: [SAT Scores for the Nation's Top Colleges and Universities \(US News World Report\)](#)

[College and University Admission Information by State](#) **2. Score at least as high on the SAT as the national average for your GPA in high school.** Colleges and universities use SAT scores to compare students from different high schools across the country. They don't usually know how difficult or easy your high school is or the classes you took. So they use your SAT to compare or validate your GPA. Your SAT score should be roughly equivalent to your GPA (or better!). Other Questions... **Why do I need to take SAT?** SAT is part of the entrance requirements for almost all American undergraduate colleges. Some require only SAT-I, which is a test of your verbal and math skills. Others, usually the higher-ranking colleges, require both SAT-I and SAT-II. SAT-II are subject tests; you usually take three of these in Math (level I or II), English Writing Test, and one other subject (Biology, Chemistry, Physics, Literature, and French are most frequently chosen by international students). You should always check the requirements of the colleges to which you want to apply (www.collegeboard.org has information). **When do I take the SAT test?** Ideally you should take SAT-I towards the end of grade XI or the beginning of grade XII. You need to complete your testing before you send your applications. Again, check the college deadlines. Plan well ahead in case you need to repeat the tests. If you try to take the tests too soon - just after grade X - you normally do not do so well. SAT-I scores improve with increasing maturity! **How do I prepare?**

Most of your peers are taking a prep course. The best way to prepare especially if you lack self-discipline and need structure is to buy a SAT studyguide or take a prep-course. To find SAT, studyguides, click SAT. Â