

MT. LEBANON HIGH SCHOOL COUNSELING DEPARTMENT

SUGGESTED TIMELINE FOR COLLEGE ENTRANCE EXAMINATIONS

9th Grade

None: The best preparation for future college entrance exams is to take as rigorous a curriculum as possible.

SAT Subject (Subject Area Tests)

Freshmen considering the more highly competitive colleges may plan to take this. Colleges that require them usually require two subject tests. All are one hour long.

Freshman who are doing exceptionally well in a 9th grade class i.e., Honors Chemistry may consider it in May or June. It can be used by any student to highlight good performance to college admissions officers.

10th Grade

PSAT (Practice SAT)

Although it is not appropriate for all, sophomores should strongly consider taking it. The test is designed as a junior year test but the practice is beneficial. The student gets his/her test booklet back with detailed scoring summary. Students can then determine areas of weakness that need to be worked on before taking the SAT Reasoning in 11th grade.

SAT Subject (Subject Area Tests)

Sophomores considering the more highly competitive colleges may plan to take this. Colleges that require them usually require two subject tests. All are one hour long.

Sophomores who are doing exceptionally well in a 10th grade class, i.e., Honors Biology may consider it in May or June. It can be used by any student to highlight good performance to college admissions officers.

11th Grade

PSAT

Practice SAT and National Merit Scholarship Qualifying Test. All juniors planning to attend a four year college should take. Offered only in October.

SAT Reasoning and/or ACT

All students planning for college should take one or both during the latter part of 11th grade. It may be advantageous to sit for the test in the early months of the second semester to get scores back in a timely fashion to decide on future tests.

For those planning on taking SAT Subject tests, an early sitting may be needed to allow sufficient testing dates to take all SAT reasoning and SAT Subject tests needed. Always see your counselor to help determine the best time frame for you.

ACT

Students tested in four areas – English, Reading, Mathematics, and Science. A score is received in each along with a composite score.

SAT Reasoning and Subject

December and March

(SAT Reasoning only)

May and June

SAT Subject

Subject area tests (see Grade 10) may need to be taken if planning to apply to highly competitive colleges. Colleges that require them usually require two. Each subject test is one hour. A student can take up to three in one sitting.

ACT

December, February, April, June, July

12th Grade

SAT Reasoning and/or ACT

Offered in the fall for seniors who feel scores need to be improved.

SAT Subject Area Test

Offered in the fall for seniors who may need to fulfill admission requirements or improve earlier scores.

SAT

August, October, November, December

ACT

September, October, December