

## College Entrance Exams

### ACT and SAT

The tests primarily used for admission to college are the SAT and the ACT. The tests are used with your high school record to evaluate your level of academic knowledge. Although some colleges consider your high school grades and class rank, this criteria is subjective, meaning that schools vary and teachers vary. The SAT and ACT, however, are standardized. Colleges can compare your scores with 2 million students using the same criteria.

Should you take a college entrance exam? If so, which test should you take? Some colleges prefer the SAT and others prefer the ACT; some accept either test. Check the website of the college that you plan to attend to see which test they accept and/or prefer; also check to see if you need to take a Writing portion of the entrance exam. If you are planning to attend a two-year community college, check their website, you may not need either one, but will probably need to take THEA.

Plan ahead. The registration deadline is about a month before each test, so you must schedule your test taking in time to get results back for college admission deadlines.

Registration bulletins may be picked up from the high school office, or you may register online at [www.collegeboard.com](http://www.collegeboard.com) (for SAT) or [www.actstudent.org](http://www.actstudent.org) (for ACT). With online registration, you can complete your registration 24/7 on any computer connected to the Internet. You get your admission ticket sooner. You have access to the most up-to-date list of locations so you can get the best choice of test centers. You will need to pay by credit card to register online.

## College Testing Calendar 2010-2011

ACT Assessment (\$33 fee) & ACT Assessment Plus Writing (\$48 fee)			SAT Reasoning Test (includes Writing) (\$45 fee)		
Test Date	Regular Registration	Late Registration (late fee required)	Test Date	Regular Registration	Late Registration (late fee required)
<b>September 11, 2010</b>	August 6, 2010	August 20, 2010	October 9, 2010	September 10, 2010	September 24, 2010
<b>October 23, 2010</b>	September 17, 2010	October 1, 2010	November 6, 2010	October 8, 2010	October 22, 2010
<b>December 11, 2010</b>	November 5, 2010	November 19, 2010	December 4, 2010	November 5, 2010	November 19, 2010
<b>February 12, 2011</b>	January 7, 2011	January 21, 2011	January 22, 2011	December 23, 2010	January 7, 2011
<b>April 9, 2011</b>	March 4, 2011	March 5 – 18, 2011	March 12, 2011	February 11, 2011	February 25, 2011
<b>June 11, 2011</b>	May 6, 2011	May 7 – 20, 2011	May 7, 2011	April 8, 2011	April 22, 2011
■	■	■	June 4, 2011	May 6, 2011	May 20, 2011

Remember to put the **school code 445520** on the registration form so that a copy of your scores will be sent to us for your permanent file.

## THEA Test

If you plan to attend a public two- or four-year college or university in Texas, you will be required to take the THEA (Texas Higher Education Assessment), which measures reading, math, and writing skills, before attending college classes.

Since 1989, the Texas Higher Education Assessment® (THEA®) has provided Texas students and institutions of higher education with a flexible, fair, and accurate testing and score-reporting system. Its purpose is to assess the reading, mathematics, and writing skills that entering freshman-level students should have if they are to perform effectively in undergraduate certificate or degree programs in Texas public colleges or universities. Students who demonstrate deficiencies in any of the tested areas will be required to enroll in at least one developmental course each semester until they meet the requirements of the Texas Success Initiative. The THEA Test was approved by the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board, under Senate Bill 286, Texas Education Code, Section 51.3062: Texas Success Initiative, for use by Texas institutions of higher education as an assessment instrument to evaluate incoming students. It provides the diagnostic data required by this legislation; its content is the same as that of the former TASP Test. The THEA Test is offered in the following testing formats:

The **THEA paper-and-pencil test** is offered five times a year *at centers across Texas*; the fee is **\$29.00**. The registration bulletin provides complete information about how to register to test, prepare for the test, and obtain your score report. You may print a registration bulletin or register online at [www.thea.nesinc.com](http://www.thea.nesinc.com).

### 2010 THEA Paper-and-Pencil Test Dates

Test Date	Regular Registration Deadline	Late Registration Deadline (additional fee applies)	Emergency Registration Deadline (additional fee applies)
<b>October 16, 2010</b>	September 17, 2010	October 6, 2010	October 13, 2010
<b>February 26, 2011</b>	January 28, 2011	February 16, 2011	February 23, 2011
<b>April 23, 2011</b>	March 25, 2011	April 13, 2011	April 20, 2011
<b>June 18, 2011</b>	May 20, 2011	June 8, 2011	June 15, 2011
<b>July 23, 2011</b>	June 24, 2011	July 13, 2011	July 20, 2011

**The deadline for submission of requests and all necessary documentation for alternative testing arrangements is the regular registration deadline. Because of space, staff, and time constraints, there can be no assurance that requests received after this deadline can be accommodated.**

The **THEA Quick Test** is the same as the THEA paper-and-pencil test and is offered by many colleges and universities on a schedule determined by the institution. North Central Texas College administers the THEA Quick Test throughout the year. This is in addition to the normally scheduled THEA examinations held across the state throughout the year. Contact the appropriate NCTC campus Business Office where you wish to take the exam, pay your **\$10** nonrefundable registration fee, and sign up **in advance**. On the day of the exam bring **\$29.00** (check, money order, or credit card payable to NES), picture ID, 4-function non-programmable, non-scientific calculator, and two #2 pencils.

### 2010 THEA Quick Test Dates For NCTC

<b>Gainesville</b> Phone 940-668-4216	<b>Corinth</b> Phone 940-498-6255	<b>Bowie</b> Phone 940-872-4002
October 15, 2010	September 24, 2010	September 24, 2010
November 19, 2010	October 22, 2010	October 29, 2010
December 15, 2010	November 05, 2010	November 19, 2010
		December 03, 2010

Other area 2- and 4-year colleges and universities may also offer the Quick THEA; contact the testing center of the institution for details or visit the THEA Web site at [www.thea.nesinc.com](http://www.thea.nesinc.com) and select the "THEA Quick Test" link for additional testing sites. An official score report for all sections will be mailed to you within one week after your answer document is received. Once you have taken the THEA Quick Test, you must wait 30 days before retaking it.

### **THEA Preparation**

A full-length practice version of the THEA® Test is available through their official website at [www.thea.nesinc.com](http://www.thea.nesinc.com) (select "Practice Test").

OR

Work through the free THEA® Preparation Modules located on NCTC's Student Success Center site at [http://www.nctc.edu/Student\\_Services/Access/StudentSuccessCenter.htm](http://www.nctc.edu/Student_Services/Access/StudentSuccessCenter.htm)

OR

Attend one of NCTC's Student Success Center's THEA® Preparation workshops offered throughout the semester; dates listed at [http://www.nctc.edu/Student\\_Services/Access/THEAPREP.htm](http://www.nctc.edu/Student_Services/Access/THEAPREP.htm) . Pre-register and receive the room number information by calling (940) 498-6415, or by emailing [mcamacho@nctc.edu](mailto:mcamacho@nctc.edu) . You may also stop by Room 124 in Bowie, Room 114 in Gainesville, or Room 160 in Corinth to get more information about this service.