

Testing Information

Students who are enrolled in grades 9-12 at Northside Christian Academy follow the testing program outlined below:

Stanford Achievement Test & Otis-Lennon School Ability Test Grade 9

- April 21-23, 2010

The Stanford Achievement Test is a norm-referenced test that allows a student to compare his achievement to a national average. It covers specific skills that students learn in the core subjects. The Otis-Lennon Test measures a student's ability to perform the academic tasks of normal school routine. When the achievement and ability scores are compared, parents can determine how close to his ability level a student is actually performing in school. NCA administers these tests on our campus each April. Test results are used as part of the selection process for honors courses.

PSAT (Preliminary SAT) Grades 10-11

- October 14, 2009

The Preliminary SAT is a practice test for the College Board SAT. It measures a student's critical reading, math, and writing aptitudes. By taking a shorter version that is similar in structure to the SAT, a student can get an early idea of how he will perform on the college entrance test his junior and senior years. Each student receives individual score results with tailored information regarding his performance on the test. The results include information about the specific concepts that a student answered correctly or incorrectly as well as advice on how to brush up before taking the real SAT. Further, the testing company has a Web site called PSAT extra that allows students to do career interest surveys, get more information on test questions, and start planning for college. This test is administered on NCA's campus each October to 10th and 11th grade students. The College Board charges a nominal fee for this exam.

SAT (Formerly known as the Scholastic Achievement Test) Grades 11-12

- October 10, 2009
- November 7, 2009
- December 5, 2009
- January 23, 2010
- March 13, 2010* on NCA's campus
- May 1, 2010
- June 5, 2010

The College Board SAT is a common entrance test required by many colleges in the South as well as on the West Coast, but also accepted by most colleges in the nation. It measures a student's aptitude for success in college by testing critical reading, math, and writing concepts. The writing component has been a recent addition, and many colleges are still deciding how to use the writing scores. For now, most colleges still use the critical reading (formerly called the verbal score)

and the math scores to help them make admission and placement decisions. NCA serves as a test site for the March administration. NCA juniors are asked to take the test at this time. NCA seniors should plan to take the SAT again in October or November of the senior year. In order to sign up for any SAT testing, students must register with the College Board at www.collegeboard.com. They should be sure to create a student account and use NCA's CEEB code 340681 to have their scores sent to NCA from any administration, and to use NCA's test center code 34702 to register for the administration on our campus. On the College Board Web site, students may register for any convenient location for the other test dates. The College Board charges a fee for this exam.

ACT (American College Test) Grades 11-12

- September 12, 2009
- October 24, 2009
- December 12, 2009
- February 6, 2010
- April 10, 2010
- June 12, 2010

The ACT is another college entrance test that some students choose to take in addition to the SAT. It is designed to test a student's readiness for college, and the format is a little different. The ACT is comprised of four tests (verbal, math, science, and social science) with the option of adding on a writing test. Colleges in the mid-west and some Bible colleges typically prefer the ACT, but most US colleges will accept either ACT or SAT scores. Students may check locations and register for the ACT at www.act.org. The ACT Company charges a fee for this exam.

Advanced Placement Testing Grades 11-12

- AP Calculus May 5, 2010
- AP US History May 7, 2010
- AP Biology May 10, 2010
- AP English 12 May 12, 2010

Students enrolled in Advanced Placement courses at NCA are required to take the appropriate AP exam. These are national exams created by the College Board, designed to allow high school students to earn college credit in advance for coursework they have completed in high school. NCA administers the exams on the same day and time that every school in the nation is required to do. Students receive their scores in July, directly from the College Board. All test scores are figured on a scale of 1-5. Most colleges will grant one semester of credit for a score of 3; many colleges will give two semesters of credit for a score of 4 or 5. The College Board charges a fee for these exams.