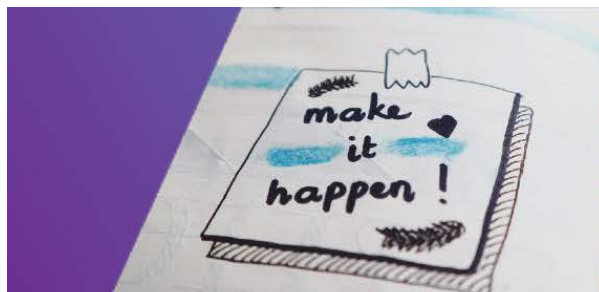




美成教育 U.S.A.

MASON'S Education Dec. 2021 十二月號

發行單位：美成國際事業有限公司 地址：臺北市仁愛路四段 137 號 6 樓之三
電話：(02)2775-4863 傳真：(02)2775-5405 <http://www.masonsimmigrate.com>



DECEMBER 2021

美國大學申請資深教育顧問
Ting Chiu 邱婷蘭
CFEd, Certified College Coaching
Consultant
ting.chiu@theawesometeam.org



SAT 有變化? 堅持到底! CHANGES TO SAT? STAY THE COURSE!

BY ROBERT A.G. LEVINE

On Jan. 19, 2021, the College Board made a formal announcement that had been leaked a few days earlier: standardized testing is changing.

Effective immediately, SAT will no longer offer the writing portion of the test, and except for some international exceptions, SAT Subject Tests are being discontinued. College Board's press release stated, in pertinent part:

We are no longer offering the Subject Tests in the U.S. Students in the U.S. will automatically have their registrations canceled and receive a refund. Because Subject Tests are used internationally for a wider variety of purposes, we will provide two more administrations in May and June of 2021 for students in international locations. International students can call customer service to cancel their registration for a full refund if they no longer want to take Subject Tests.

Students can take the SAT with Essay through the June 2021 SAT administration. After June 2021, the Essay will only be

available in states where it's required for SAT School Day administrations for accountability purposes. Students registered for the SAT with Essay this spring can cancel the Essay portion at any time, free of charge."

What does this mean?

Essentially, in the aftermath of so many standardized tests being cancelled in 2020 because of Covid-19, the College Board is making bold statements. First, SAT is not going anywhere; the colleges still want it. Second, since nobody really cares anymore about the essay portion, College Board got rid of section, which will make everyone happier with them. Third, since College Board presents both the AP exams and the Subject Tests, they are now pushing Advanced Placement. Schools must pay for the right to present AP subjects, and students must pay to take AP exams instead of Subject Tests.

If you carefully read the press release from the perspective of what is said, what is not said, how many dozens of people crafted its final language, and how much money is at stake, you'll see what's really going on. This new system should be much more lucrative for College Board.

這種測驗的變化如何影響大學申請者？真的沒有影響。

How does this testing change affect college applicants? It really doesn't.

Each college decides individually how it wishes to evaluate applicants. They know what they are looking for in a prospective student, and they know what they don't want to see. They develop their own protocols on what is required for an application, and what is not required. They have their own internal evaluation methods. To the extent that the colleges change their processes, those changes are the result of a conscious internal effort to do their job better. To put it another way, College Board isn't going to tell a university how to do its admissions job.

SAT is still SAT, and it will remain a valuable asset for students who can achieve a good score. The Subject Tests? They are being replaced in importance with AP tests, which always could have been reported. The evaluation by the colleges will be the same, just using different tests.

Our recommendation? Even with the increased popularity of test-optional applications, if you can (safely) obtain a good test score on a standardized test, use it to your advantage! Pursue the best possible scores, then decide whether or not you wish to report them to your favorite colleges. To be strategic, don't try to decide whether to present a test score until you know what you've got.

Please ... relax. The admissions system is not changing. It's just using different puzzle pieces.

Your job is to do your best, not just on tests and grades, but also on extracurricular activities and things that make a difference to the world. Focus on success, not failure. Be the best you can be.

Finally, remember this: the U.S. admissions process is often holistic, with results that are not linear or predictable based upon test results. Do a great job on your admissions essays and get to know your teachers and counselors very well. They can help you achieve your educational dreams.