



## SAT Accommodations for Students with Disabilities

### Factsheet for Virginia's Parents

At present, more than 2,000 accredited four-year U.S. colleges and universities have adopted **test-optional** or **test-free** admissions policies and don't require applicants to submit SAT or ACT scores. For those who require tests, those tests are a key step in the admissions process. Students with disabilities are entitled to reasonable testing accommodations under the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) and Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act. This fact sheet focuses on the accommodations available through the College Board for the SAT.

### What Are SAT Accommodations?

Accommodations are modifications or supports provided to students with documented disabilities to level the playing field during testing. These adjustments address specific needs without altering the test's integrity. Common accommodations include, but are not limited to:

- **Extended Time:** Additional time to complete test sections.
- **Additional Breaks:** More frequent or longer breaks between sections.
- **Reading and Seeing Modifications:** Access to large-print test materials, braille, or screen readers.
- **Scribe or Computer for Essays:** Assistance for students with writing difficulties.

### Eligibility for SAT Accommodations

To qualify for accommodations, students must have a documented disability that substantially limits their ability to perform a major life activity relevant to taking the SAT. Documentation should include:

- **Diagnosis:** A clear statement from a qualified professional.
- **Current Evaluation:** Recent assessments detailing the disability's impact and the need for accommodations.
- **Educational History:** Records of previously provided accommodations, if applicable.

### Application Process

1. **Initiate Early:** Begin the process well in advance—ideally in the spring of your child's freshman year. Processing can take up to seven weeks.
2. **Collaborate with the School:** Have your child talk with your school team or guidance counselor to see if they can submit the request online. If possible, this will require less paperwork.
3. **Submit Necessary Documentation:** Provide all required evaluations and reports to support the accommodation request.

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4. **Await Decision:** The College Board will review the application and inform you of its decision. Approved accommodations remain valid throughout high school for the PSAT, SAT, and AP exams.

## What If SAT Accommodations are Denied?

If the College Board denies accommodations, you will receive a letter indicating why. More documentation or details may be needed.

- Review the letter and be sure you understand what is lacking or needs to be clarified. Then work with your child's school to gather the required information.
- Resubmit the request. Note that the review process can take up to 7 weeks, so be timely and make sure your documentation aligns with the College Board's guidelines.

## Preparing for Test Day

- **Confirm Accommodations:** Be sure your child's admission ticket reflects the approved accommodations. If problems arise, contact the College Board's office right away.
- **Become familiar with the Test Format:** Encourage your child to use the practice materials that align with the granted accommodations so that they will be more confident and comfortable.
- **Communicate with Test Center:** Confirm that the test center is aware of and prepared to implement the accommodations.

## Key Considerations

- **Timeliness:** Late applications may result in accommodations not being available on test day.
- **Request:** Ask only for the accommodations that address your child's documented needs.
- **Documentation:** Ensure all evaluations are current and comprehensive.

### ADDITIONAL INFORMATION/RESOURCES:

[About Accommodations](#) | [Accommodations](#) | [College Board](#)

[SAT Accommodations: What They Are and How to Get Them](#) | [PrepScholar](#)

[SAT Accommodations for Students with Disabilities](#)

[SAT Testing Accommodations](#) | [Scholarships360](#)

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