



# ACT-SAT Prep Essentials FAQ's

Your **ONLY LOCAL** test prep choice with **OPTIONS** individually tailored for **YOU**:

**General strategies practice or targeted, focused instruction.  
Group classes or private, individual coaching.  
ACT and/or SAT.**

**YOU CHOOSE! Getting results since 1999.**

## General Questions

### How long has LEAP been doing ACT and SAT Prep?

LEAP was founded in 1999 and began our ACT-SAT prep classes and tutoring in 2000.

### What results can we expect?

Typical results on an ACT are a +2 to +6 point on the composite score and +100 points on the SAT total. On the subtests of the ACT, we've had gains of up to +11 points. The highest gains on subtests of the ACT were for students with pacing issues.

We've found no other local test prep option beating our results and we remain the most affordable option in the area.

### Is there homework?

Does a basketball star practice? Of course! For the **class option** we will complete 2 full ACT's in the class and 1 as homework for a total of 3 ACT's for the class. Students taking the SAT also complete 2 full SAT's.

Students in **individual ACT and/or SAT** tutoring will complete many ACT and SAT tests and practice problems. LEAP has 7 different actual ACT's and 10 SAT's available to us with the materials we use.

To be an ACT or SAT star, you need to put in time in class and out leading up to your test. Practice, practice, practice of both strategies and content is key.

### Are the materials LEAP uses online or in a book?

LEAP recommends only paper to pencil practice. This is the format of both the ACT and the SAT. Using the scantron and navigating from book to answer document is an art that takes practice to stay on the right line and on pace to finish.

Additionally, many of the strategies we teach are related to marking in the text booklet which is impossible to do online.

### Does practice for one test benefit both?

Yes, to a degree. The vast majority of content knowledge assessed on the tests is the same:

grammar, writing skills, math through algebra II, and reading comprehension. Your best strategy for doing well is taking a solid high school curriculum.

The tests are scored differently on different scales and there are some content differences. Thus you can't fully substitute one for another but all practice has some benefit to both tests.

### **How do I know if my child should take the ACT or the SAT?**

The ACT is an achievement test and the SAT is a reasoning test. Most students perform better on the ACT. Other factors such as GPA can help to determine which test your child might perform better on. LEAP is also able to use PLAN and PSAT results to guide you. LEAP can assist you in figuring out which to take and when – just call the LEAP office.

### **Should my child take LEAP's ACT/SAT Prep Essential's class or do individual tutoring?**

Generally, LEAP recommends taking the class first then following-up with individual tutoring *if needed*. The class is designed to help all students learn test-taking strategies and gain confidence before taking the ACT and/or SAT. It is a great value as students get over 11 hours of class time in a small group setting. Individual tutoring is great for students who need intensive content review in a specific area or areas in addition to testing strategies and practice.

It's **YOUR OPTION** to start with the class or go for an individually tailored tutoring program.

### **When does test prep take place?**

Tutoring is available Monday through Thursday and Saturday year-round. Classes start about 5-6 weeks prior to each test date with multiple options including weekday and Saturday.

### **When should we register with LEAP?**

LEAP individual tutoring runs year-round and you can register at anytime. However, don't let your test date sneak up on you leaving you with

not enough time for adequate prep. We also will reach capacity near high volume test dates.

We do our best to release our class schedule months in advance of classes starting. For those in our database, they are notified by our newsletters of when new classes open. Register early as it is extremely rare that a class would not reach capacity in advance.

Registration is on the LEAP website.

### **My child would do better in an individual setting; do we have to take the class before we can sign-up for individual tutoring?**

No, each child is different and LEAP wants to best meet the needs of your child. Some students respond better to one-on-one tutoring so all the strategies and topics taught in the class can be covered in an individual tutoring setting. **You choose the best fit for your child with LEAP!**

### **How many times should my child take the ACT and/or SAT?**

ACT and SAT report 55% of students increase their score on a second attempt. LEAP results are over 90% improvement. LEAP recommends that each child take one test at least 2 times, but typically not more than 3 times as most students eventually will plateau in their testing.

### **Why do English tutors prep students for the science portion of the ACT?**

The science part of the test is actually a reasoning test (not a science test) requiring "interpretation, analysis, evaluation, reasoning, and problem solving" skills as well as practice navigating this fast paced test. Students are required to **read** tables, charts and graphs about science material then answer questions. So it's a thinking and reading test!

### **How will I know my child is making progress?**

In addition to instruction and problem solving during class or tutoring, your child will have weekly practice homework outside of tutoring which will be graded.

We teach your child how to learn from their practice with a specific coding system we developed as well as scoring their practice to track improvement and hit their target scores to get into their best fit colleges.

We also track progress on pacing specifically for students who struggle with pacing on the reading and science sections where this can be a problem.

Individual tutoring students can also sign-up to take a full-length, timed ACT test with the classes for a cost of \$25. Your child would get to keep the practice test booklet and the answer sheet. This is a valuable learning tool that can be used in tutoring.

## **ACT-SAT Prep Essentials CLASS**

### **What is the class size?**

LEAP is committed to small class sizes – smaller than you'll experience at school. All LEAP classes are limited to 15 students max.

### **My child only needs prep in 1 or 2 areas, can he/she just sign-up to take part of the ACT-SAT Prep Essentials Class?**

No, the class is designed to be taken in its entirety. If you just need review in a specific content area, you would want to sign-up for LEAP's individual ACT-SAT tutoring. During individual tutoring, your child's specific areas of weakness will be addressed in a one-on-one setting.

### **What if I have to miss a class?**

Due to our commitment to low class size of 15 or fewer students and that our classes most always fill to capacity, typically we are unable to allow students to swap into another class. However, we do have a limited number of individual make-up times where students meet privately for one hour with a trained tutor. Cost for the individual make-up hour is \$45 if you would need to meet and we don't have room in another class.

## **ACT-SAT INDIVIDUAL TUTORING**

### **If I sign-up my child up for individual tutoring, how many sessions will he/she need?**

The number of sessions needed varies greatly depending on your child's situation. LEAP will look at factors such as GPA, previous test scores (PSAT, PLAN, ACT or SAT), goal ACT/SAT score and colleges they are interested in. We do not recommend less than 3 sessions on any one topic as we find that is the minimum number needed to see results. Typically we will recommend anywhere from 4 – 8 sessions to achieve the desired score, however we have many students who desire highly intense, targeted practice who may prep on a long term or open ended basis. Contact us so we can help you determine how many sessions are needed.

### **My child needs individual tutoring in all subject areas, will one tutor be able to work with my child?**

No, our tutors are certified teachers in math and English and hold their degrees in these areas. It would be rare for a math teacher to be effective with English and vice versa. They are also trained on LEAP's ACT-SAT curriculum to tutor in their area of specialty. If your child needs tutoring in all subject areas, they would need to work with two tutors – one for English, Reading, Science and one for math.

### **How often will my child meet with his/her tutor?**

Tutoring takes place on a weekly basis. Some students come more than once per week. We will work with your family to set up a weekly tutoring time that is convenient for your family. If you should need to cancel, you may do so but must give at least 24 hours notice in order to avoid being charged for that session. Remember, though, it's vital to attend the recommended number of sessions. We make our recommendations based on extensive experience with thousands of students since 1999.