

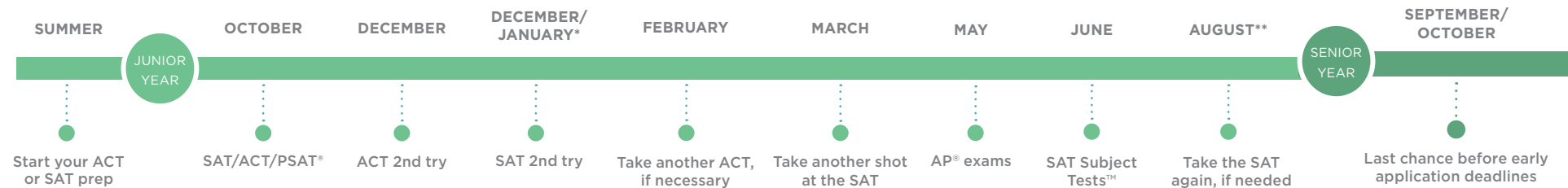
RECOMMENDED TESTING TIMELINE

FOLLOW THIS TIMELINE IF YOU:

- Are aiming for highly competitive colleges
- Want to cut down on stress during senior year
- Want to achieve National Merit® Scholarship status
- Plan to apply early action or early decision to universities

Which test is right for you?

Our recommendation: take a practice test for the SAT and the ACT and see which one you're most comfortable with.



JUNIOR YEAR

SPRING/SUMMER BEFORE JUNIOR YEAR

- Begin researching schools
- Take a free ACT or SAT practice exam—pick the test that's right for you
- Start your ACT or SAT prep

FALL/WINTER

- Take the PSAT

SAT Strategy

- Sit for the October SAT
- Take the test again in December, January or March, if needed

ACT Strategy

- Take the October ACT
- Sit for the February ACT, if needed

SPRING

SAT Subject Test Strategy

- Take AP exams in May
- In June, take the corresponding SAT Subject Tests

SUMMER BEFORE SENIOR YEAR

- Fall tests are your last chance before applications are due
- Prep now if you need to raise your score
- Kick off your college applications

SENIOR YEAR

FALL

- Take the September ACT or October SAT
- Fall tests are your last chance if you're applying early decision or early action
- Take SAT Subject Tests in October, if needed



EXPERT TIP:

You can apply to multiple schools through early action, but only one through early decision (ED). If you're accepted to your ED school, you're obligated to matriculate there.

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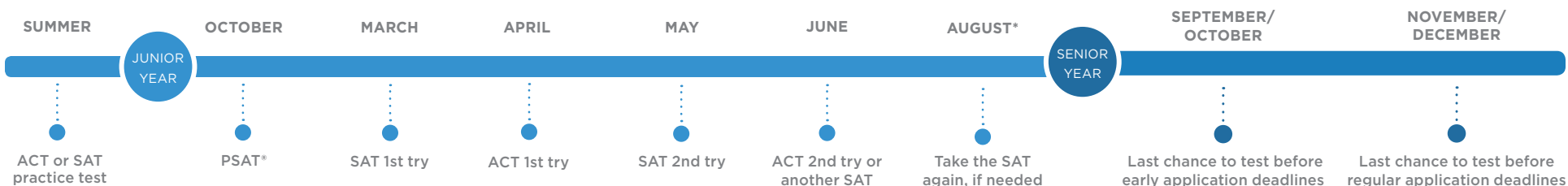
TRADITIONAL TESTING TIMELINE

FOLLOW THIS TIMELINE IF YOU:

- Need to start your prep in your junior year
- Are not required to take SAT Subject Tests™
- Want to prep more over the summer
- Will take the tests again during your senior year

How many times should you take the SAT or ACT?

Our recommendation: take each one no more than three times. If you get the score you want, you don't have to take it again.



JUNIOR YEAR

SUMMER

- Take a free ACT or SAT practice test
- Decide which test to focus on

FALL/WINTER

SAT Strategy

- Take the PSAT and start your ACT or SAT prep
- Sit for the March SAT

ACT Strategy

- Take the test in December or February

SPRING

- If needed, take the April or June ACT
- Take SAT Subject Tests in June

SUMMER BEFORE SENIOR YEAR

- Fall tests are your last chance before applications are due

SENIOR YEAR

FALL

- Take the September ACT or October SAT
- Start your college applications

WINTER

- To hit regular admissions deadlines, December tests are your last shot



EXPERT TIP:

Comprehensive prep courses can start as many as 8 to 10 weeks before the test. Plan ahead and find a course near you at [PrincetonReview.com](https://www.PrincetonReview.com).

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