



## Make 2019 help you with college admissions & scholarships!

Dear Scholarship Gold friends-

Lots of news to share! The articles below will cover the following topics.

**1) Points for choosing your classes next year-** Many of you will be choosing your classes for next year in the upcoming weeks. Is it better to play it safe and take classes you'll get A's in for sure? Or- is it better to risk a B and take that harder class? Read below to find out.

**2) Upcoming Scholarship Gold Workshops!**- Registration is open for classes Dec - March (more may be added). Our flagship College Bound Essentials class is coming up next **Saturday, Jan 5th**- Save your spot!

**3) When to take the SAT and ACT-** When should a student start taking the SAT and/or ACT? How many times? Is it best to focus on one over the other? We'll cover all that below!

**-Make sure to sign up for the big national college fair coming your way-**

**Atlanta's college fair- March 3-** click [HERE](#)

**Greenville SC college fair- March 16-** click [HERE](#)

**Charlotte fair is March 17-** click [HERE](#)

**NOTE- Available appointments with Scholarship Gold staff-** Want to make a game plan specifically designed for your student? Let us know and we'll get you on the calendar. We can help you pick your classes for next year, plan a great summer, figure out how to stand out with unique attributes that colleges will love, and much more.

Enjoy the information below and feel free to forward it to friends who may enjoy it!

Elizabeth Hartley



## So many course choices! Play it safe or take a chance?

One of the few criteria that almost all colleges say is extremely important in an application is something they call "rigor of secondary school record". That essentially translates to "How much did this student challenge himself/herself, considering the courses that they had the option to take?".



Click [HERE](#) to read the full article for your best course selection strategy!

## Available Workshops- Jan through March (More may be added in coming weeks)



Attending a Scholarship Gold workshop is the most efficient and convenient way to empower your student to create exciting college options.

We strongly recommend that a family attend the **College Bound Essentials** workshop before booking a private appointment- It helps us make the most effective use of our meeting time.

To view details of each workshop, click on the link. All of the events below are in **Lake Wylie, SC (just outside Charlotte) on Saturdays.**

**Jan 5- LAST CALL! Truly an essential class for any family with a college bound student!**

**College Bound Essentials Jan 5- click [HERE](#)**  
(ideal for grades 8-11)

**Feb 2**

**College Bound Essentials- click [HERE](#)**  
(ideal for grades 8-11)

**Feb 23**

**Essay Writing for Admissions & Scholarships-**  
(We'll have the new essay prompts for the class of 2020. Let's get started!) **click [HERE](#)**

**Rising Junior Year Essentials- click [HERE](#)**  
for the class of 2021

**March 16**

**Essay Writing for Admissions & Scholarships**  
-click [HERE](#)

**Rising Senior Year Essentials- click [HERE](#)**  
for the class of 2020

**SAVE YOUR SPOT TODAY!**

**COST PER CLASS- \$75/Student**  
(parents come along at no charge)

# When and how many times to take the SAT and ACT!



Almost all colleges across the country will allow students to submit either an SAT or ACT score for consideration for admissions. I haven't run across one in years that had a preference for one over the other. None of them will require both.

So, the **key** is for the student to first figure out which test works best for him/her. Then, focus on preparing for and retaking the test of choice 2-3 times, preferably before the end of the junior year of high school. If needed, the student can take it again in late summer/early fall of the senior year.

## **Step 1- Which test is best?**

I recommend taking one SAT and one ACT shortly after finishing Algebra 1, Geometry, and Algebra 2 (or, in North Carolina, once a student finishes Math 3). Compare the scores using this conversion chart [here](#) and see which one is higher. That is your preferred test. If the scores are equal, go with the test that the student simply liked better.

You can sign up on [www.Collegeboard.org](http://www.Collegeboard.org) for the first SAT or [www.ACTstudent.org](http://www.ACTstudent.org) for the ACT.

**OR-** if you prefer to take one of each through an unofficial, free source, go to [www.PrincetonReview.com](http://www.PrincetonReview.com), click on "College Prep" and then choose Free Test and Events for the SAT and also for the ACT. The scores are unofficial but they give students a good idea of each test.

**THEN-** Once it's clear which is the stronger test, plan a schedule to repeat it 2-3 times before fall of the senior year. Click [HERE](#) to view and print a comprehensive schedule of all tests for 2019.

## **STEP 2- Prep and repeat test**

It only makes sense to repeat the test if a student actually preps beforehand. Otherwise, they'll just keep getting a similar score. Figure out which prep strategy is best.

- **Book-** Up Your Score (there's one for the SAT and also the ACT)- great strategy books. Available on Amazon.
- **Eprep.com-** Awesome online prep tool that gets the student to practice full sections of the test within the time constraints. Then, a 1-2 minute video pops up to tutor the student through every question he/she missed. Very effective tool.

***\*If you'd like a nice discount on Eprep, email me at [Elizabeth@ScholarshipGold.com](mailto:Elizabeth@ScholarshipGold.com) and I'll set. you up.***

- **Tutor-** By far the most expensive option but good for students who need the extra accountability. Email me if you'd like a list of various tutors who come recommended by previous students.

**Ultimately-** Each student needs to figure out which test prep method works best for him/her and embrace it. Any of these methods can work IF the student really digs in and does the work. Test scores will be the key to admissions as well as scholarships.

## National College Fair & Testimonial

### NATION'S BIGGEST COLLEGE FAIR!

**Date-** March 17, noon-4  
Charlotte

Other dates around the country- check website

**Cost- Free!**

Go to [NACACfairs.org](http://NACACfairs.org) to find the spring college fair near you.

Dear Elizabeth,

I wanted to let you know Amber was offered a full tuition ride to Tulane University as she was awarded the Deans Honor Scholarship.

However; she has opted to attend Furman as they awarded her the Hollingsworth Scholarship and she was one of only 6 students accepted into the direct entry admission program to the USC Greenville Medical School.

I want to thank you for all your help, You were definitely a contributing factor to Amber's success. I wanted to let you know so you can tell her success story to other students to inspire and motivate them.  
Thank you again!

Francis



### We are here to help- Don't feel like you must navigate this alone!

The Scholarship Gold team is here to help you create the most remarkable future possible for each child, whether that means pursuing an Ivy League school or perhaps starting with community college. We want to find the best fit and best opportunities for each one!

**Email [Lindsay@Scholarshipgold.com](mailto:Lindsay@Scholarshipgold.com) to make an appointment!**

[Contact Me](#)

