

SAT/ACT PREPARATION

Inspirica

Over 25 Years of One-on-One
Tutoring and Test Preparation





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Inspirica

Our Founder



Dear Parent,

I was 24 years old when I first started tutoring students for the SAT. Almost no one was doing this sort of work, and being close to the age of my students, I understood the pressure they felt. As each successive year went by the students stayed 16, but I kept getting a year older! Twenty-six years later and now with my own child in high school, the cycle has come full circle, and I can fully empathize with parents. And, probably not surprisingly, those fellow parents unanimously report the same single leading fear to me: that they are going to “miss” something from their lack of knowledge about the current college admissions process and risk putting their child at an unnecessary disadvantage.

If your family works with Inspirica you will never have to worry about “missing” anything related to the standardized testing process. Ever. We will make sure to reduce the stress as our educational consultants educate you, and our world-class tutors educate and inspire your child. We’ll take care of the rest of the details so that you can focus on savoring the time you have left with your children before they leave home.

I’ve devoted my life to helping families make wise educational choices with minimal worry. At Inspirica, we truly care about you, want to support you and help you relax as much as possible. To that end, I’ve put together this brochure for you. After you’ve read it please give us a call. We would be happy to discuss how we can help you “breathe easy” throughout this often stressful time.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, which appears to be 'LJ', written in a cursive style.

Lisa Jacobson
Founder and CEO
Inspirica

Inspirica

Over 25 Years of One-on-One
Tutoring and Test Preparation

“I will certainly recommend Inspirica to anyone who is searching for a great tutoring and test prep service. I was quite impressed with your knowledge and willingness to try to help us in any way you could.”

—*satisfied parent*

The Inspirica Difference

Since 1983, Inspirica has been exceptionally successful in preparing students for standardized tests and academic work. We customize our programs to suit each student’s specific needs and goals. With warmth and expertise, an Inspirica tutor works one-on-one with each student on content and strategies, and an educational consultant works with you on everything else. Our unique, collaborative approach means that all members of our team—from our superb tutors to our caring and knowledgeable office staff—make sure that your child receives the best possible care to achieve great results with minimal stress.

EDUCATIONAL CONSULTANTS

The first time you contact Inspirica you will speak with an educational consultant who will be your personal guide to the entire college admissions test preparation process. Your educational consultant will get to know you and your child, make a personalized program recommendation, and answer any questions you may have over the course of your child’s programs. If you are unsure of which exams are needed for college admissions or how to distribute tests across multiple dates or even when to schedule an exam, your educational consultant would be happy to conduct a complimentary “Educational Audit” and create a testing plan for you. Your educational consultant will oversee your student’s programs from beginning to end, making sure that the right tutor is matched, checking in with you periodically to provide feedback, and recommending adjustments if needed.

TUTORS

Our tutors are, in a word, inspirational. They are highly educated and bright, with a wide range of academic and professional expertise, and they score exceptionally high on standardized tests. For us, this is just the beginning. To qualify as Inspirica tutors, they must also be personable, skilled motivators who communicate easily with all types of students. After demonstrating proficiency in every subject that they teach, our tutors complete an extensive training program on various approaches of teaching strategies and content. Throughout their Inspirica careers, our tutors also participate in ongoing professional development workshops to continue to hone their teaching skills. Working one-on-one with their students, our tutors are enthusiastic, patient, and eager to invest in each student as an individual. They are true professionals who take deep pride in their work.

Our tutors understand that one size does not fit all and that every program will unfold in a unique way.

CURRICULUM

Our curriculum is unsurpassed, constantly evolving and growing in response to new research and changing standards and needs. Inspirica devotes a group of staff members to the regular study and analysis of the standardized tests that we tutor. As part of our constant monitoring of the tutoring process, our staff upgrades and improves curriculum materials on a regular basis.

PROGRAMS

Our programs are customized to each student based on an initial assessment and a conversation about his or her goals and hopes. Your educational consultant will analyze the results of this assessment and recommend an individualized tutoring program, whether that means basic familiarity with the exam in a relaxed environment or an intensive program with a focus on as much score improvement as possible or some combination of the two. Our tutors customize their approach and the content that they cover in session according to each student's needs and progress—they understand that one size does not fit all and that every program will unfold in a unique way. We offer a complimentary mock exam program to our students so that in addition to their in-session work with tutors, they have the opportunity to take practice exams under test conditions. These “mocks” also provide check points over the course of a tutoring program. Our tutors and educational consultants work together to ensure that the program progresses smoothly so that your student can feel confident.

Alumni

Our alumni have attended the following undergraduate institutions:

Amherst	Hamilton	Tulane
Barnard	Harvard	University of California, Berkeley
Bates	Haverford	University of Chicago
Boston College	Indiana University	University of Delaware
Boston University	Johns Hopkins	University of Massachusetts
Bowdoin	Kenyon	University of Michigan
Brandeis	Lafayette	University of New Hampshire
Brown	Lehigh	University of Pennsylvania
Bryn Mawr	Middlebury	University of Vermont
Bucknell	MIT	University of Virginia
Carnegie Mellon	New York University	University of Wisconsin, Madison
Clark	Northwestern	Vanderbilt
Colby College	Notre Dame	Wake Foest
Colgate	Oberlin	Washington and Lee
Columbia	Pomona	Washington University
Cornell	Princeton	Wellesley
Dartmouth	Rice	Wesleyan
Davidson	Sarah Lawrence	William and Mary
Dickinson	Skidmore	Williams
Duke	Stanford	Vanderbilt
Elon	SUNY Schools	Vassar
Emory	Swarthmore	Villanova
Franklin and Marshall	Syracuse	Yale
Georgetown	Trinity	
George Washington	Tufts	

“I recommend
Inspirica tutors to
all the families I
work with, and the
results have been
terrific. I don’t
know anyone who
hasn’t experienced
a significant
improvement.”
—college counselor

Local Tutoring

Our tutors will meet with your child at a convenient time and place. They are based in New York, Boston, and Philadelphia and commute to surrounding areas. Many of our families prefer in-home tutoring, but other arrangements are also possible, such as meeting at a local library or in one of our offices.

Custom Trips

Where would you like us to be? Inspirica’s tutors are renowned for traveling year-round to help students whose families request them locally, nationally, and internationally. Our tutors have traveled to thirty-eight states and to four continents to work one-on-one with students.

“Inspirica Anywhere”

In order to support our students wherever they may be, Inspirica offers one-on-one tutoring via the computer called “Inspirica Anywhere.” The technology is simple. With the basics of a computer, webcam, and Internet connection, your child can meet with his or her tutor no matter the circumstances.

In-person tutoring is a wonderful way for students and tutors to work together, but it is not always possible. Student travel or weather-related emergencies can interfere with a regular tutoring schedule. Many Inspirica students also live across the United States and internationally.

Through video conferencing and a shared work environment, students can meet with their Inspirica tutors anytime, anyplace. For more information about “Inspirica Anywhere,” call and speak with one of our educational consultants.



Tests

“Inspirica was a wise decision for us. Your program was exactly what our daughter needed.”

—*satisfied parent*

PSAT

Although the PSAT is not required for the college application process, many students take the exam as an introduction to the SAT. The PSAT is intended for juniors, and some high schools also invite sophomores to take the exam.

PSAT stands for “Preliminary SAT,” and the exam is designed to be taken 1-2 years prior to the SAT. Although the two tests share similar content and question types, there are important differences: the PSAT does not include an essay, the math is not as advanced, and the entire test is a little more than half as long as the SAT. As a result, scores will not necessarily be comparable.

Some students would like to aim for National Merit scholarships; others simply want to know what to expect on the exam. Whichever the case, students find it helpful to have an introduction to the PSAT. Although PSAT scores are not used in college admissions, this test should not be discounted. Many high schools use PSAT scores to begin generating each student’s college list. Students may also be disheartened about the SAT if their PSAT scores do not represent their abilities.

Please see our website for more information: www.inspirica.com

SAT

The SAT is a popular college admissions test, although the ACT is also widely accepted. High school juniors and seniors take the SAT, sometimes multiple times, as an application requirement. Since the addition of the Writing section, the total possible score has changed from 1600 to 2400.

The SAT has ten sections which fall into three categories: Critical Reading, Mathematics, and Writing. The Critical Reading section has a mix of fill-in-the-blank vocabulary questions and reading passages with comprehension questions. The math sections cover Algebra I and Geometry topics with some Algebra II concepts. The Writing section has three types of grammar questions and a short essay.

Generally, SAT tutoring begins the summer after tenth grade, but no matter when you call, one of our educational consultants would be happy to set up a personalized testing plan for your student. Your educational consultant will guide you through the college preparation process at Inspirica and custom-design a program and timeline for your student.

Please see our website for more information: www.inspirica.com

Our job is to help you “breathe easy” throughout every step of this often stressful testing process.

SAT Subject Tests

SAT Subject Tests (formerly called SAT II and Achievement Tests) are one-hour exams in twenty different subjects. Unlike the SAT, Subject Tests are often paired with high school courses and test the content learned in those classes. Many colleges request several of these tests in addition to the SAT or ACT.

THE FOLLOWING SUBJECT TESTS ARE AVAILABLE:

Literature	French/French with Listening
U.S. History	German/German with Listening
World History	Spanish/Spanish with Listening
Mathematics Level 1	Modern Hebrew
Mathematics Level 2	Italian
Biology E/M	Latin
Chemistry	Japanese with Listening
Physics	Korean with Listening
Chinese with Listening	

Some Subject Tests are best taken immediately following the completion of the school course while others can be scheduled at other times. At Inspirica, we feel that it is best to spread the tests out over the high school career. This allows enough time to prepare for each exam individually, maximizing the chances for success. Consequently, if you can contact us as early as ninth grade, we will have time to help you create a testing timeline made for your child’s specific needs.

If you call us in eleventh grade, there’s no reason to worry. We can still help you find your child’s path to success.

Please see our website for more information: www.inspirica.com

ACT

Traditionally, students on the east and west coasts have more commonly taken the SAT while those in the rest of the country have taken the ACT. Since the SAT revision in 2005, the ACT has received more attention nationwide, and many students opt to take the ACT instead of the SAT.

With all of the tests your child may take in high school—the SAT, SAT Subject Tests, ACT, APs, and so on—it is critical to have a game plan, and the earlier it is established, the better. In general, students begin to prepare for the ACT after their sophomore year; however the exact time will depend on your student’s individual academic and extracurricular schedule. Some SAT Subject Tests are given as early as ninth grade, so that’s the best time to contact us, but no matter when you call, one of our educational consultants would be happy to set up a personalized testing plan for your student.

Please see our website for more information: www.inspirica.com

Inspirica In The News

“There’s nothing like that feeling of watching the students get into the college they’d been aiming for. I know I’ve made a mark on their lives, and they sure have on mine.”

—*Inspirica tutor*

Inspirica has appeared in numerous major news and media outlets, including the following:



THE WALL STREET JOURNAL



BusinessWeek

The New York Times



Newsweek

Town&Country



CBS NEWS

seventeen



The Washington Post

Money

YAHOO!

Bloomberg



The Philadelphia Inquirer



Forbes

Woman's Day

FT



CRAIN'S

NEW YORK

FINANCIAL TIMES

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