The CollegeSpring program includes standardized test preparation delivered by professional instructors and near-peer mentors coupled with repeated diagnostic testing. The CollegeSpring program includes 4 diagnostic tests (DTs): a baseline test, 2 tests during the program, and 1 test at the end of the program.

Why is it so important that students take as many of the 4 DTs as possible?

More diagnostic testing is strongly associated with greater SAT score improvement.

Compared with students who only took 2 DTs, students who took all 4 DTs improved their scores by almost 100 additional points. Taking the final DT could mean an additional 20+ points onto a students’ score.

DT scores are a strong indicator of how students will do on the actual SAT.

How students do on their best DT in the program is a good indicator of how they will do on the test itself. More diagnostic testing can help students avoid having to retake the actual test to improve their scores.

If a site cannot schedule all 4 DTs during the program, our data shows that skipping test 2 is the best choice. Students who skipped test 2 saw 27 fewer points of gain (vs. 34 points for test 4 or 66 points for test 3). If it is necessary to skip a test delivery, the second test during the first half of the program is the best choice. However, students still benefit most from taking all 4 tests.

*Data in this report comes from Fiscal Year 2014 programs*