

# **Frequently Asked Questions**

## Who or what is The Edge in Standardized Testing?

The Edge is a professional tutoring agency owned and operated by Mr. Adam Aloma. Saint Thomas Aquinas High School has hired The Edge to handle all of its SAT, PSAT and ACT preparation. The Edge has been helping students succeed on standardized tests for the past ten years and its average level of improvement is one of the highest in the nation. If you'd like to learn more about The Edge, please visit the website: www.edgeintesting.com. To enroll for an STA program, visit this website: <u>https://www.edgeintesting.com/sta/p/sta-weekday-program</u>

### Why does the program start in the second semester?

During the Spring, The Edge will prepare your child for the PSAT that will be given the following year. Since there is not enough time in the Fall of next year to administer a full program before the actual test in October, the Spring of this year is the best time to begin the program.

## Does The Edge in Standardized Testing also offer individual tutoring?

Yes. The Edge offers individual as well as small group tutoring. Individual and small group tutoring will be scheduled based on the common availability of your child and one of the tutors. However, it is highly recommended that your child first take a classroom program. Then, afterwards, he can pursue individual or small group tutoring to focus specifically on his weaknesses.

## What is the difference between the freshman program and the sophomore program?

Since the most effective way to improve your score is to prepare continuously, The Edge has created a stepping-stone program. In freshman year, the program is based on creating a foundation of skills and strategies. In sophomore year, the program builds upon this foundation through extension and application of these skills and strategies. Thus, the two courses are not the same. Each program has separate and unique lesson plans, assignments and goals. However, the two programs work together to create a supreme test-taker who has not only learned the skills and strategies but mastered them through usage.

## Does the program help prepare them for other standardized tests?

Yes. The program prepares your child for the PSAT, SAT and ACT. The skills and strategies learned are relative to all standardized tests.

#### What supplies do we need for the program?

Your child will need a notebook, pen/pencil and calculator. All other materials, including the packets of notes and booklets of practice problems, will be provided for them.

#### If my child is a Freshman, should he just wait until he is a Sophomore to take the program?

No. Although it is possible to catch up to the other students, continual preparation strengthens memorization of the skills and strategies and builds greater comfortability with the test. In turn, the confidence gained reduces test-taking anxiety. Studies have shown that long-term preparation is the most effective method of training for standardized tests. Therefore, students who begin freshman year always have an advantage over those who wait.

#### If my child plays sports or works during the week, what do you recommend?

The Edge offers morning programs that meet the needs of students with afternoon activities.

### What do I do if my child misses a class?

If your child misses a class, you will be notified via the email address you provide. It will be your child's responsibility to see Mr. Aloma in Room 400. If the absence is excused, he will do his best to either allow the child to partake in a different class or provide the notes and materials that the child missed. The classes also can be offered virtually upon the student's request.