

JOSH HARDER
10TH DISTRICT, CALIFORNIA

COMMITTEE ON
AGRICULTURE

COMMITTEE ON
EDUCATION AND LABOR

Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

131 CANNON HOUSE OFFICE BUILDING
WASHINGTON, DC 20515
(202) 225-4540—PHONE
(202) 225-3402—FAX

4701 SISK ROAD, SUITE 202
MODESTO, CA 95358
(209) 579-5458—PHONE
(209) 579-5028—FAX

www.harder.house.gov

David Coleman
CEO, College Board
250 Vesey St.
New York, NY 10281

Dear Mr. Coleman,

I am writing to urge you to come up with a swift and effective solution for the [hundreds of thousands](#) of students who are unable to take the Scholastic Aptitude Test (SAT) due to site closures and an unwillingness to provide flexibility for at-home testing. Your inaction on this issue so far has hurt students applying to be part of the class of 2025, and, if continued, will begin to impact the class of 2026 as well.

An inability to conduct on-site standardized testing is a known effect of the coronavirus pandemic, and has been for some time. Of the 183,000 students scheduled to take the August exam, more than half of those were unable to actually take the exam. This past month, more than half of all test sites were closed for the September 26th test date and more are expected to follow suit for October as college application deadlines approach.¹

Other organizations have come up with ways around the Coronavirus crisis, including the Law School Admission Council with the online Law School Admissions Test (LSAT)-Flex test², the Educational Testing Service with its Graduate Record Examination (GRE) General Test at-home option³, and the Graduate Management Admissions Test (GMAT) Online.⁴ There is now significant precedent for moving admissions tests online or otherwise altering test details to better accommodate applicants during the coronavirus crisis, and in fact, your organization is now one of the last major test providers without an online option. Many more schools have made the SAT optional for admissions, but there are still schools that require it.

Students should not feel required to put their health at risk for their chance to go to college, and they should not be subject to the ability of their local test sites to weather the crisis, nor to the prevalence of the pandemic in their region of the country. Please do all you can to correct these inequities and expand access to the SAT. Thank you for your time, and I look forward to receiving your response.

¹ <https://www.insidehighered.com/admissions/article/2020/09/23/hundreds-thousands-who-registered-sat-unable-take-it>

² <https://www.lsac.org/update-coronavirus-and-lsat/lsat-flex>

³ <https://www.ets.org/s/cv/gre/at-home/>

⁴ <https://www.mba.com/exams/gmat-online>

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Josh Harder". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke extending from the end of the word "Harder".

Josh Harder

U.S. Representative, CA-10