

The **CERTA** Learning Center

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Dear Parents and Guardians,

First, we hope that all of our students and their families are safe, staying in place, and feeling well. We would also like to say thank you to the many individuals who have left telephone messages and sent e-mail notes inquiring about the wellbeing of all of us at the CERTA Learning Center.

For the past 34 years, the staff of the CERTA Learning and Research Center has provided parents, guardians, and students with practical and straight-forward advice on educational matters. Our family community has made us a trusted partner in their most important educational decisions. This is a role that we value highly and consider it the bedrock of our longevity in the educational landscape.

It is a difficult and devastating time for so many families, businesses, and institutions around the world. We are keenly aware that no one can escape the effects of COVID-19. Many of our families, friends, and relatives have been personally affected by this pandemic.

For our students and their parents, however, there is a definite kind of apprehension of the unknown, as the customary process for applying to college has been transformed into a patchwork of possible exemptions. Most students who have been actively preparing for college entrance tests are aware that the immediate SAT and ACT test dates have been canceled. We are still waiting to hear when additional summer test dates will be scheduled. The College Board has already chosen to revise and shorten the format of the AP exams and will administer the exams online. Moreover, many school districts have had to scramble to move as much of teaching as is practical to distance learning, while final evaluations of students' efforts are left uncertain. There is also some vagueness about how colleges and universities will assess applications from perspective students. In general, we encourage all of our students to realize that the great majority of college-bound students are equally impacted by the changes and decision delays caused by the COVID-19 pandemic.

We also want to reassure you that we are still able to provide individual tutoring and scheduled prep courses through our private, secure online platform as well as advice by telephone. Please feel free to explore our website for upcoming course offerings. We are optimistic that things will return to normal, and we want to encourage all of our students to continue with their studies. Students who put the time and effort toward their

work now will retain the knowledge and skills required for the course work in the coming academic year.

The links below provide the most up-to-date information for college entrance exam dates:

College Board: PSAT/SAT Test Updates Due to COVID-19

<https://pages.collegeboard.org/sat-covid-19-updates>

American College Testing: ACT Test Updates Due to COVID-19

<https://www.act.org/content/act/en/covid-19.html>

We are sending you and your family well wishes. Please continue to stay safe and healthy.

Sincerely,

The Faculty of the CERTA Learning Center