Graduate Admissions
Exams

Tests Registered through Boise State Testing Services:

MAT (Miller Analogies Test)
The Miller Analogies Test is used for graduate school admission for some graduate programs. The test is made up entirely of analogies, involving analytical reasoning as well as content knowledge.

The MAT is a high-level mental ability test requiring the solution of problems stated as analogies. Research by psychologists on human intelligence and reasoning found performance on analogies to represent one of the best measures of verbal comprehension and analytical thinking.

Performance on the MAT is designed to reflect candidates’ analytical thinking, an ability that is critical for success in both graduate school and professional life. Through analogies with content from various academic subjects, MAT scores help graduate schools identify candidates whose knowledge and abilities go beyond mere memorizing and repeating information.

Fees and instructions:
- The test costs $75 and a valid photo ID is required.
- The test is offered by appointment only. Please call University Testing Services at 208-426-2762 to schedule an appointment.
- Please plan approximately 1 hour to complete the test.

For more information about the exam go to: Miller Analogies.com
Tests Not Registered through Boise State Testing Services:

GRE (Graduate Record Exam)
By Tara Kuther, Ph.D., About.com

The GRE measures a variety of skills that are thought to predict success in graduate school across a wide variety of disciplines. Actually, there are several GRE tests. Most often when an applicant, professor, or admissions director mentions the GRE, he or she is referring to the GRE General Test. Depending upon your discipline, you may be required to take a GRE Subject Test or the GRE Written Test in addition to the GRE General Test.

The GRE General Test contains sections that measure verbal, quantitative, and analytical writing skills.

- The verbal section tests your ability to understand and analyze written material through the use of analogies, antonyms, sentence completions, and reading comprehension questions.
- The quantitative section tests basic math skills and your ability to understand and apply qualitative skills to solve problems. Types of questions include quantitative comparisons, problem solving, and data interpretation.
- The analytical writing section tests your ability to articulate complex ideas clearly and effectively, examine claims and accompanying evidence, support ideas with relevant reasons and examples, sustain a well-focused, coherent discussion, and control the elements of standard written English. It consists of two written essays: 45-minute “Present Your Perspective on an Issue” task and a 30-minute “Analyze an Argument” task.

The verbal and quantitative subtests yield scores ranging from 200-800. Most graduate schools consider the verbal and quantitative sections to be particularly important in making decisions about applicants. The analytical writing subtests yield a score ranging from 0-6.

Boise State University Testing Services offers the paper-and-pencil subject exams. The general exam may be taken at the Prometric
Test Center at the ISU Meridian facility. All examinees must register through the GRE website listed below:
http://www.ets.org/gre/

**LSAT (Law School Admission Test)**
By Tara Kuther, Ph.D., About.com

Most applicants to law school dread taking the Law School Admission Test (LSAT), a half-day standardized test required for admission to all law schools that are members of the Law School Admission Council. What is the LSAT and what does it measure? Let’s explore the content of the LSAT as well as the pragmatics: when it’s offered, how to register for it, and more.

What does the LSAT measure?
The LSAT is designed to provide a standard measure of reading and verbal reasoning skills that are essential to success in law school. The test itself is a marathon of sorts requiring 175 minutes plus a 30 minute writing sample.

The test consists of five, 35-minute sections of multiple-choice questions. Only four of the five sections will contribute to your score. These sections include one reading comprehension section, one analytical reasoning section, and two logical reasoning sections. A fifth section is used to pretest new test items, and is not used to calculate your score. You won’t know which section is the pretest new test items section. Finally, a 30-minute writing sample is administered at the end of the test.

The LSAT is scored on a scale from 120 to 180. While the average score is about 150, top law schools typically accept applicants with scores over 160. Contact law schools that you’re interested in to learn about the average score of accepted students.

To register for the LSAT exam go to the website below:
http://www.lsac.org/

**GMAT (Graduate Management Admission Test)**
By Tara Kuther, Ph.D., About.com
Getting ready to apply to business school? Then the Graduate Management Admission test (GMAT) should be on your to-do-list. What is the GMAT and how can you prepare for it? The GMAT measures a variety of skills that are thought to predict success in business school. It measures skills that you’ve acquired over the high school and college years. The GMAT is an aptitude test because it is meant to measure your potential to succeed in business school.

While the GMAT is only one of several criteria that graduate business programs use to evaluate your application, it is one of the most important. This is particularly true if your college GPA is not as high as you’d like. Exceptional GMAT scores can open up new opportunities for business school.

The GMAT contains sections that measure verbal reasoning, quantitative reasoning, and analytical writing skills.

To register for the GMAT exam go to the website below:
http://www.gmac.com/gmac

**MCAT (Medical College Admissions Test)**

By Amy Shea

Medical schools take several factors into account when considering your application: your transcript, letters of recommendation, and of course, your Medical College Admissions Test (MCAT) score. The MCAT is a standardized exam designed to measure your aptitude for a career in medicine. While the test provides medical schools with an objective measure of your scientific knowledge, it also gives insight into your critical thinking skills and problem-solving ability. As with any exam, preparation is the key to success. An important first step in preparing for this crucial test is understanding what it’s all about: the who, what, when, where, how and why of the MCAT.

Who administers the MCAT?
The MCAT is administered by the Association of American Medical Colleges, a nonprofit organization composed of accredited U.S. and Canadian medical schools, major teaching hospitals, and professional medical societies.

What is the format of the MCAT?
The MCAT consists of four sections: Verbal Reasoning, Physical Sciences, Writing Sample, and Biological Sciences, which appear in this order during the administration of the exam.

The MCAT is only offered two times each year: in April and August. It is recommended that you take the test in the year before you planned entrance into medical school.

You can receive additional information from the MCAT Program Office at P.O. Box 4056, Iowa City, IA 52243, or by calling (319) 337-1357.

DAT (Dental Admission Test)
From Wikipedia, the free encyclopedia

The Dental Admission Test (DAT) is a multiple-choice standardized exam taken by potential dental school students in the United States and Canada. The DAT is a computer based test that can be administered almost any day of the year. Tests are taken at Prometric testing centers throughout the United States after the preliminary application through the American Dental Association is completed. Each applicant may only take the test a total of three times before having to ask special permission to take the exam again. After taking the exam you must wait 90 days before repeating it. Exam cost is $320.

To register for the exam go to the website below:
http://www.ada.org/dat.aspx

Test Preparation Materials:

To learn about authorized test preparation materials, go to the test-sponsor website. Most sites will provide you with information on how to access approved test preparation materials.

In addition, the Boise State University Library has provided additional materials. Please go to http://guides.boisestate.edu/career for further information on how to access these materials.

Once you have reached the web page listed above, you have two options for information on test preparation materials.
1. You can go to the Learning Express Library link in the center of the page. Click on “Learning Express Library.” Register as a New User and you will have access to a variety of test preparation materials designed to help you prepare for college placement exams, graduate college admissions, ESL admissions, CLEP tests, etc.

2. You can go to the blue “Test Collection” tab at the top of the page to obtain a listing of all test preparation books available on reserve in the Albertsons Library.