

PSAT Information:

The PSAT/NMSQT is part of the SAT Suite which focuses on a deep understanding of the skills and knowledge shown by current research to matter most for college and career readiness and success. The tests reflect what students are already learning in school.

The PSAT/NMSQT is co-sponsored by the College Board and National Merit Scholarship Corporation (NMSC). The National Merit Scholarship Program is an academic competition for recognition and college scholarships that began in 1955. High school students enter the National Merit Program by taking the Preliminary SAT/National Merit Scholarship Qualifying Test (PSAT/NMSQT®), which serves as an initial screen of approximately 1.6 million entrants each year, and by meeting published program entry and participation requirements

Test Date: Wednesday, October 10. Testing will be in the LHS library starting at 7:55 a.m. promptly.

Students are tested on: Reading Test and a Writing and Language Test, Math Test – No Calculator and Math Test – w/Calculator.

GET YOUR TICKET IN THE GUIDANCE OFFICE. The fee is \$16 per student. (The College Board offers fee waivers and related benefits for eligible low-income students. PSAT/NMSQT test takers must be juniors to get fee waivers. Students who are either enrolled in or eligible to participate in the National School Lunch Program (NSLP) qualify for a fee waiver. <https://collegeboard.org/feewaivers>)

How to prepare and what to know about the test/scholarship:

INSIDE THE TEST: <https://collegereadiness.collegeboard.org/psat-nmsqt-psat-10/inside-the-test>

Student Guide:

http://www.nationalmerit.org/s/1758/images/gid2/editor_documents/student_guide.pdf?gid=2&pgid=61

The tests reflect what students are already learning in school and include these key features:

Words in context. Students engage in close reading to interpret the meaning of relevant vocabulary words.

Command of evidence. Students are asked to interpret, synthesize, and use evidence found in a wide range of sources; support their chosen answers; and integrate information from passages and informational graphics.

Essay analyzing a source. Students taking the SAT with Essay read a passage and analyze it, using evidence drawn from the text to explain how the author builds a persuasive argument. The SAT Essay is optional.

Math that matters most. Students encounter questions in key content areas such as Problem Solving and Data Analysis, mastery of linear equations (Heart of Algebra), and familiarity with more complex equations (Passport to Advanced Math).

Problems grounded in real-world contexts. Questions directly relate to college and career using charts, graphs, and passages from science, social science, and other majors and careers.

Analysis in science and in history/social studies. Students apply their reading, writing, language, and math skills to solve problems in a broad array of contexts.

U.S. founding documents and the Great Global Conversation. Students read a passage or passages either from a U.S. founding document or from the ongoing global conversation about freedom, justice, and human dignity.

PSAT/NMSQT:

Reading Test: 47 questions/tasks (60 minutes)

Writing and Language Test: 44 questions/tasks (35 minutes)

Math Test – No Calculator: 17 questions/tasks (25 minutes)

Math Test – Calculator: 31 questions/tasks (45 minutes)