

PSAT/NMSQT®



CollegeBoard



NATIONAL MERIT  
SCHOLARSHIP CORPORATION

# Prepare for the PSAT/NMSQT®

Preliminary SAT/National Merit Scholarship  
Qualifying Test



# What Is the PSAT/NMSQT?

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# What to know about the PSAT/NMSQT

Test length:  
2 hours, 45 minutes

No points deducted  
for incorrect answers  
or unanswered  
questions (also  
called “rights-only”  
scoring)

Free, personalized  
SAT practice through  
Khan Academy® with  
students’ own  
PSAT/NMSQT scores

Scale range is  
320–1520 for the  
total score

# When Is the PSAT/NMSQT?

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# PSAT/NMSQT Test Dates

**HBHS will take the PSAT on WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 13**

- *report to the gym (jrs) or 221-222 (sophomores who registered in June) by 7:40 on test day*
- *testing will likely go through Period 4 that day--you will have the opportunity to have lunch after the test*

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# Skills Tested on the PSAT/NMSQT

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# Skills Tested

- Each test assesses the academic skills that students have developed, primarily through their coursework.
- These skills are considered essential for high school, college, and career success.

## **Reading Test**

## **Writing and Language Test**

## **Math Test**

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# Reading Test

- 5 passages
- 47 passage-based questions;  
60 minutes

## Quick Facts

- All questions are multiple choice and based on passages.
- Some passages are paired with other passages or informational graphics such as graphs and tables.
- No mathematical computation is required.
- Topic-specific prior knowledge is never tested.
- The Reading Test is part of the Evidence-Based Reading and Writing section.



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# Writing and Language Test

- 4 passages
- 44 passage-based questions;  
35 minutes

## Quick Facts

- All questions are multiple choice and based on passages.
- Some passages are paired with informational graphics such as graphs and tables.
- No mathematical computation is required.
- Topic-specific prior knowledge is never tested.
- The Writing and Language Test is part of the Evidence-Based Reading and Writing section.

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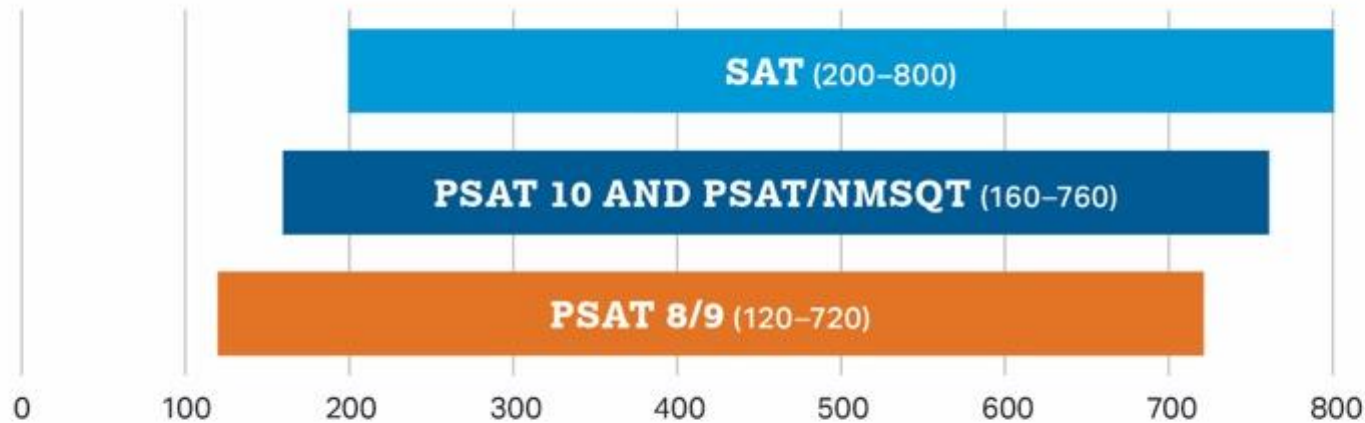
# Math Test

- 2 test sections; 70 minutes
- 48 questions (40 multiple choice, 8 student-produced responses)

## Quick Facts

- Most math questions will be multiple choice, but some will be student-produced responses.
- The Math Test is divided into 2 portions:  
Math Test – No Calculator  
and Math Test – Calculator.
- Some parts of the test will present a scenario and then ask several questions about it.

# How Does the PSAT/NMSQT Connect to the SAT?



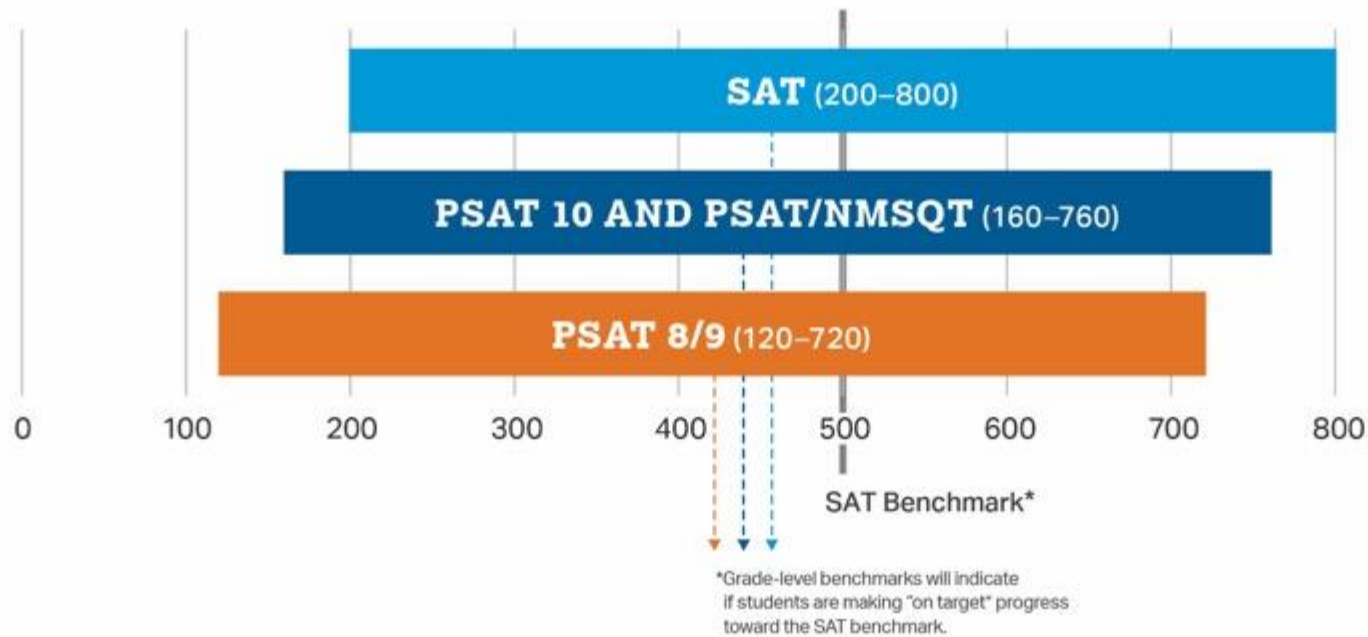
## Content and Domain Alignment

All tests in the SAT Suite are aligned to the same research backbone and focus on the same domain of knowledge and skills.

## Scoring

All tests in the SAT Suite are on a common score scale that provides consistent feedback, enabling teachers to adjust instruction to better support students who are ahead or behind.

# How Does the PSAT/NMSQT Connect to the SAT?



The score students get on the PSAT/NMSQT is the same score they would have gotten on the SAT if they'd taken it on the same day.

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# How Does the PSAT/NMSQT Compare to the SAT?

	<b>Time</b>	<b>Section Score Range</b>
<b>PSAT/NMSQT</b>	2 hours, 45 minutes	160–760
<b>SAT</b>	3 hours, 50 minutes	200–800

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# How to Prepare for the PSAT/NMSQT

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# Know How the PSAT/NMSQT Is Scored

## Rights-Only Scoring

- 1 point for each correct answer
- No points deducted for incorrect answers or unanswered questions

## Math Student-Produced Responses

- Enter answers as (reduced) fractions or decimals.
- If rounding a decimal, make sure to enter as many characters as are allowed.

## Scale

- 160–760 for each test section
- 320–1520 for the total score

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# Personalized Skills Information

## The PSAT/NMSQT Score Report

- Contains information to help students improve academic skills.
- Lists skills that students have the best chance of improving with additional work.
- Connects to free, personalized practice recommendations on Khan Academy.



# Resources

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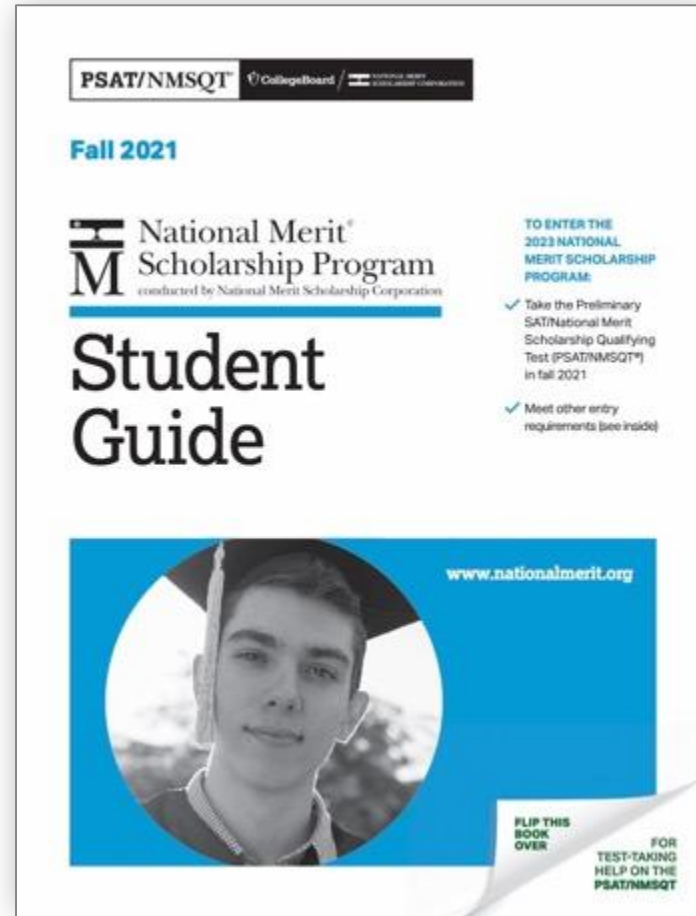
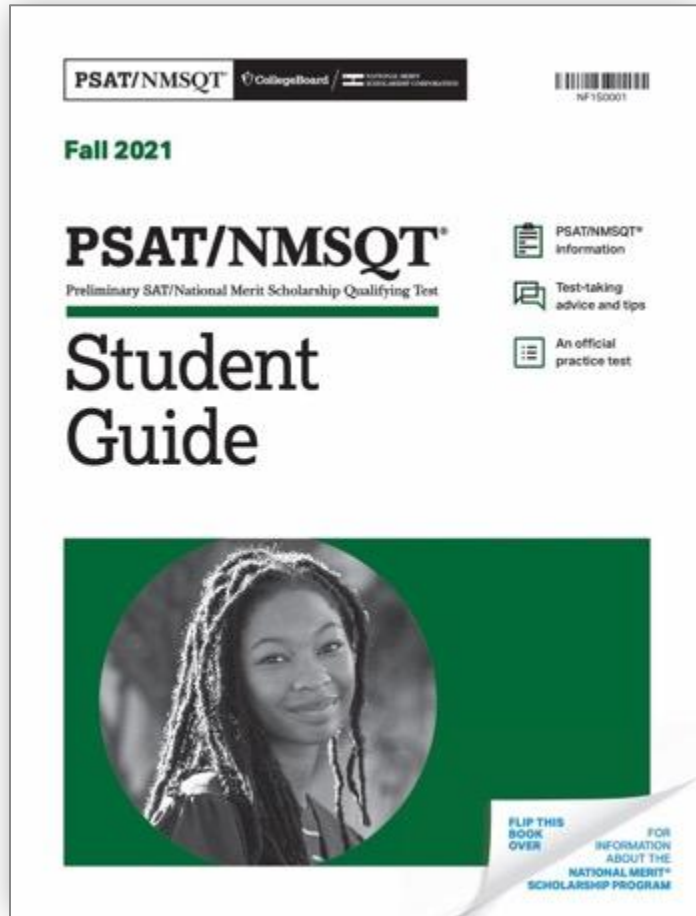
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# Resources

- For general information about the PSAT/NMSQT, please visit [\*\*collegeboard.org/psat\*\*](https://collegeboard.org/psat)
- To find out more about NMSC and the National Merit Scholarship Program, visit [\*\*nationalmerit.org\*\*](https://nationalmerit.org)
- To find out more about scholarship opportunities, visit [\*\*psat.org/scholarships\*\*](https://psat.org/scholarships)
- For free, personalized resources aligned to the SAT Suite, visit [\*\*khanacademy.org/sat\*\*](https://khanacademy.org/sat)
- Take a PSAT/NMSQT practice test in the *PSAT/NMSQT Student Guide*, available from your counselor or at [\*\*collegeboard.org/psatpractice\*\*](https://collegeboard.org/psatpractice)

# Resources

Read the full *PSAT/NMSQT Student Guide* for details about the test and the National Merit Scholarship Program.



Good luck!

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