

**PSAT/NMSQT:**

# Turn Readiness Into Opportunity



The PSAT/NMSQT® is an assessment that connects academic preparation to opportunity. It's both a pre-test for the SAT® and the qualifying exam for the National Merit® Scholarship Program, an academic competition for scholarships and recognition overseen by National Merit Scholarship Corporation.

Administered in school, typically in the fall of 11th grade, the PSAT/NMSQT gives all students—not just those who self-select—a meaningful college and career preparation benchmark and the chance to access millions of dollars in scholarship opportunities.

The PSAT/NMSQT also provides a powerful signal to educators: It's a key part of the SAT Suite of Assessments, a connected, research-based readiness system that gives schools clear and consistent insight into student learning from middle through high school.

PSAT 8/9

PSAT 10

**PSAT/NMSQT**

SAT

**Because all assessments in the SAT Suite are built on the same scale, schools can monitor growth over time and gain a clearer picture of student readiness from middle school through graduation.**

## A Timely Indicator

As a measurement tool, the PSAT/NMSQT can help schools build students' skills and strengthen their pathways at a critical point in their high school careers—highlighting strengths, identifying areas for growth, and connecting educators to tools that help translate results into action. That includes access to AP Potential™, an online tool that uses SAT Suite assessment data to help identify students who are ready for Advanced Placement® coursework, often expanding access to trajectory-changing academic opportunities.

And as with all assessments in the SAT Suite, students get career insights on their score reports, free practice resources to build skills, and access to personalized college and career planning resources on the BigFuture® School mobile app.

By combining readiness measurement, instructional insight, scholarship access, and student planning tools, the PSAT/NMSQT helps schools support students' growth at a pivotal point in their academic journey.

“The AP, SAT, and PSAT-related assessments are avenues to reveal success that students have experienced so far, and to reveal potential. They help us connect students with a pathway they otherwise wouldn't have experienced or pinpoint challenges our students have had. **This is absolutely critical to the work we do.**”

Thomas Taylor, Superintendent,  
Montgomery County  
Public Schools, Maryland



## District and School Value

- Short, adaptive test enables precise measurement and protects instructional time.
- Actionable, standards-aligned data on students' progress, along with analysis and planning tools to inform instruction.
- Growth tracking based on a consistent, research based-scale—with access to AP Potential built-in. Results inform student planning and increase access to scholarships.
- Streamlined assessment planning and implementation, with single, secure platform and guidance via Test Day Toolkit.
- Time and tools to act—with students receiving personalized score breakdowns, career-planning insights, and access to free practice resources (including full-length practice tests in Bluebook and Official SAT Prep on Khan Academy®).

## PSAT/NMSQT at a Glance

Duration:  
2 hours, 14 minutes

2 sections:  
Reading and Writing;  
and Math

Scoring scale: 320–1520

Digital Testing App:  
Bluebook™, the same  
digital testing app used  
for the SAT & AP Exams

Results within 2 weeks

## A Full System of Free Practice and Support

Every PSAT/NMSQT student has access to free tools designed to build skills and confidence:



Official prep  
and practice on  
Khan Academy®



Full-length practice  
tests on Bluebook  
to build confidence



Student question  
bank for targeted  
practice by skill area



SAT Question of the Day  
for daily practice to build  
skills steadily over time

Learn more at: [satsuite.org/why-psat-nmsqt](https://satsuite.org/why-psat-nmsqt).

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