PSAT/NMSQT® CollegeBoard / NATIONAL MERIT SCHOLARSHIP CORPORATION

Take the 2017 **PSAT/NMSQT**

With the PSAT/NMSQT® you can:

- ☐ Prepare with SAT® practice recommendations from Khan Academy® based on your performance on the PSAT/NMSQT.
- ☐ Access college planning resources that can help you explore careers, colleges, majors, scholarships, and more.
- ☐ Enter the National Merit® Scholarship Program for recognition and scholarships.
- ☐ Connect with colleges and universities.
- ☐ Assess your skill levels and readiness for college and career.
- ☐ Get suggestions on how to improve your academic skills.

Date/Time: Wednesday October 11, 2017 7:45-11:30 a.m.

Cost: $16.00 Make check payable to QND

Location: QND Multipurpose Room

Additional information: Register & pay in Guidance Office by September 20; Pick up Study Guide

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CollegeBoard

The **PSAT/NMSQT** and **PSAT 10**: The Parent Perspective

Location: QND Multi-Purpose Room
Date/Time: 10/11/17 7:45-11:30a.m.
Cost: $16.00
For more information, contact: Judy Liesen jliesen@quincynotredame.org

Frequently Asked Questions

WHY SHOULD STUDENTS TAKE THE PSAT/NMSQT® OR THE PSAT™ 10?

The PSAT/NMSQT and the PSAT 10 offer great preparation for the SAT®. They also provide students and their teachers with actionable information about their academic skills. Students who take the PSAT/NMSQT or the PSAT 10 will get both an online score report at **studentscores.collegeboard.org** and an official paper score report. They will receive an overall test score (320–1520) as well as individual section scores, test scores, cross-test scores, and subscores. Students will be able to see which answers they got right or wrong. They will also get information on how to improve their academic skills.

Students who take the PSAT/NMSQT in their third year of high school (11th grade) and meet other program entry requirements may enter the National Merit® Scholarship Program. They may also qualify for other programs such as the National Hispanic Recognition Program. For more information, see your school counselor.

Students who take the practice test can get free personalized online SAT practice recommendations on Khan Academy®, which can be used to improve their skills and prepare for both the PSAT/NMSQT and PSAT 10 because of the close alignment of the tests.

WHO SHOULD TAKE THE PSAT/NMSQT?

Typically, students take the PSAT/NMSQT in 10th and 11th grade. Taking the test allows them to start improving skills and knowledge needed for success in college and career. Students can take the test only once a year, but there is no limit to how many years a student may participate. It is important that 11th-grade students take the PSAT/NMSQT to enter the National Merit Scholarship Program and to get SAT practice.

HOW SHOULD STUDENTS PREPARE FOR THE TEST?

Classroom learning is the basis for test questions, so the best way students can prepare is by taking challenging courses and becoming familiar with the test and its format. Students should review the *PSAT/NMSQT Student Guide* or *PSAT 10 Student Guide*, along with a practice test for the test they are taking, to better understand all the directions and become familiar with the types of questions that will be asked. In addition, students who take the test can go to **satpractice.org** for free, personalized practice based on their practice test results. This practice can be used to prepare for the SAT, the PSAT/NMSQT, or the PSAT 10.

IF STUDENTS DON'T DO WELL ON THE TEST, WILL IT HURT THEIR CHANCES OF GETTING INTO COLLEGE?

Absolutely not. Since it provides personalized information on the skills that a student needs to improve to prepare for the SAT and college, taking the test can even improve their chances. PSAT/NMSQT and PSAT 10 scores are not sent to colleges.

WHAT IS STUDENT SEARCH SERVICE®, AND SHOULD STUDENTS CHOOSE TO PARTICIPATE?

When students take the PSAT/NMSQT or PSAT 10, they are asked if they would like to participate in the College Board's Student Search Service, a free service that provides names of students to eligible educational organizations. If students choose to participate, they allow colleges, universities, scholarship programs, and educational opportunity organizations to send information about the educational and financial aid opportunities they offer. Students who opt in to Student Search Service will increase their access to millions of dollars in combined annual scholarship awards. Student information is strictly monitored and secure, and individual test scores are never shared with any outside entity.

WHEN CAN WE EXPECT TO SEE THE RESULTS FROM THE PSAT/NMSQT? FROM THE PSAT 10?

Score reports will be made available online for educators on December 4 and for students on December 11 for the PSAT/NMSQT. Schools will receive paper PSAT/NMSQT score reports in mid-December. For PSAT 10, online scores will be available for educators on April 16, 2018, and for students on April 24, 2018. Paper reports will arrive in mid-May.

Score Reports

Your student's score report will include numerous scores in addition to the total score that will give your student better insight into his or her performance. The score report will also include the NMSC Selection Index score, which is calculated by doubling the sum of the Reading, Writing and Language, and Math Test scores.

PSAT/NMSQT Dates	Important Reminders
September 2017	Students should review the *PSAT/NMSQT Student Guide* and take the practice test inside. At **satpractice.org**, students can access free, personalized, online practice that can be used to prepare for the PSAT/NMSQT and the PSAT 10.
October	PSAT/NMSQT administration: October 11, 14, or 25. Make sure your student eats breakfast and brings No. 2 pencils, an approved calculator, a watch (with no audible alarm), and their email address to the test administration. On test day, encourage your student to choose "Yes" for Student Search Service on the PSAT/NMSQT to increase their access to millions of dollars in combined annual scholarship awards and to get information from colleges, universities, and scholarship programs.
November	Talk with your student about programs of study that interest them. Students in grade 11 should research colleges and universities. Visit **collegeboard.org** to help your student search for scholarships and learn more about paying for a college education.
December	Student score reports are made available online at **studentscores.collegeboard.org**. Visit **psat.org/scores** to access more information that will aid you in helping your student use their score report.
January 2018	Encourage your student to use free online resources in the online score reporting portal at **studentscores.collegeboard.org**.
February	Students in grade 11 should consider registering for the SAT in the spring.
March	Students should select four, preferably five, solid academic courses for next year. They should check with their counselor about potential participation in AP courses. Review your student's AP Potential feedback at **studentscores.collegeboard.org**.
April	Check with counselors about college summer programs designed to introduce high school students to college success.
May/June	Have your student request a summer reading list from their English teacher.

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