

PSAT

The *PSAT/NMSQT* provides important practice for the SAT test and is available to all Sarasota County students free of charge in mid-October of their Sophomore year. Beginning last year a new re-designed PSAT (and SAT in March 2016) was administered for the first time. The new PSAT is a 2 hour and 45 minute test compared to the full, re-designed SAT test time of 3 hours (plus a 50 minute optional essay). This practice test is administered to all students at no cost. For Juniors who elect to take it again, it is the test used to determine eligibility for the [National Merit Scholarship Program](#). This test is *not* used for college admission.

Students will be provided a copy of the "Official Student Guide for the PSAT/NMSQT" to help prepare for the test. In addition [Khan Academy](#) has recently partnered with the College Board to offer test preparation resources for both the redesigned PSAT and SAT. PSAT scores will be shared with students in December at which time they will be given an opportunity to review and interpret them before taking the SAT.

SAT

The Scholastic Aptitude Test (SAT) is one of two standardized entrance exams used by most colleges and universities to help make admissions decisions and often to award grants and scholarships (the other is the ACT). The goal is to provide colleges with a common criterion that can be used to compare applicants. It is simply one factor in the admissions process and the weight placed on SAT scores varies from school to school.

The SAT is offered across the United States every year in October, November, December, January, March, May and June. There are two sections in the recently revised SAT: *Mathematics* and *Evidence-Based Reading and Writing*, plus an optional *Essay*. The Essay results are reported separately. The test is three hours and 50 minutes long from start to finish (including the 50 minute essay).

Students generally take the SAT and/or ACT in their junior year (once or twice) and again in the fall of their senior year. If a student decides to take the SAT more than once, many colleges will take the highest *Math* and *Evidence-Based Reading and Writing* score from a combination of administrations. (Consult specific university policies on score use/Super Scoring).

SAT Registration

You may register by mail or online and should do so at least four weeks before the test date. Consider registering even earlier if you have a preferred test location and date in mind. When you register you will need

- Your High School code
- A digital photo of clear resolution and with a plain backdrop. Or you may send in a photo with paper registration.

If you miss the registration deadline, you may be able to go online for late registration or to request a waitlist status. View [SAT Test Dates and Registration](#) [Test Accommodations](#)

SAT Scores

When you register for the SAT, you can specify up to four colleges to which your score for that test date will be sent automatically (included in your registration fee). For a fee (per recipient) you can wait until *after* you receive your scores from multiple test dates before sending your scores. College Board [Score Choice](#) allows you to select your best scores by test date to send to colleges. Some colleges allow you to use Score Choice, but a few require that you send **ALL** scores. For this reason, it is advised to take the test *no more than two or three times*. Always check individual college requirements before test registration and sending scores. [Check or Send your SAT scores](#)

It is your responsibility to know which colleges require which tests and to request that your scores be sent from www.collegeboard.com or www.actstudent.org to the colleges. Scores from standardized tests do NOT appear on your Pine View transcript. The only way that colleges will receive them is if you send them. Each year otherwise qualified applicants are rejected because they failed to send test scores in a timely way!

SAT Redesign (Class of 2017)

The first administration of the redesigned SAT was in March 2016. Many students in the current Senior class (the Class of 2017) will have taken both the old and new versions of the test. The College Board has released [concordance information](#) to help admission officers understand the new scores in relation to the old SAT scores and ACT scores. It is important to note that while many schools superscore the SAT, blending of scores can only occur within a single version of the exam. Superscoring *between* the older version and the revised version of the SAT is not allowed.

SAT FAQs