

SAN DIEGO UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT

Date: 2021-2022

To: High School Principals and Vice Principals; Area Superintendents

Subject: 2021 Preliminary SAT/National Merit Scholarship Qualifying Test (PSAT/NMSQT)

Department and/or Persons Concerned: High School Principals, Vice Principals, and PSAT Coordinators. Sites that enroll students in Grade 11.

Reference: College Board PSAT/NMSQT Website
(<https://collegereadiness.collegeboard.org/psat-nmsqt-psat-10>)

Action Requested: Review information regarding administration and payment of the PSAT/NMSQT for the 2021-2022 Academic Year

Brief Explanation:

San Diego Unified School District will sponsor the PSAT/NMSQT for all 11th graders. PSAT or Preliminary Scholastic Assessment Test is a practice exam for the SAT that is required by some colleges, universities and scholarships ([link to website](#)). NMSQT or National Merit Scholarship Qualifying Test is an elite scholarship and the only way for students to enter is via the PSAT/NMSQT in October ([link to website](#)).

All district 11th grade students are encouraged to take the PSAT/NMSQT; however, it is an in-person, optional exam and not required for any student. The exam is offered on three dates and sites may select any/all of the dates that best support their students' needs: (1) Wednesday 13 October; (2) Saturday 16 October; (3) Tuesday 26 October. Free practice exams are available at <https://collegereadiness.collegeboard.org/psat-nmsqt-psat-10/practice> .

The district will provide funding for the PSAT/NMSQT for students in grade 11 only. The district will not cover the cost for these exams for students in other grade levels. Sites may elect to have students in other grade levels take the exam, however, sites will be responsible for collection of payment from students in other grade levels and payment of other grade level exams to College Board.

PSAT/NMSQT Content:

The PSAT/NMSQT exam is 139 questions in three sections: Reading, Math, and Writing and Language. It measures what students have learned in high school so far and what students can improve on for success in college. For full details, visit

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

Implementation and Important PSAT/NMSQT deadlines:

- August/September = All sites with 11th graders will determine which date(s) to host the PSAT/NMSQT. [Sites may choose to complete this form to have district order exams.](#)
September 14, 2021 at 8am = Coordinator Workshop to learn more about applying for testing accommodations, fee waivers, exam day preparation, administration, returning materials, and payments
- September 15, 2021 = final day to edit exam orders for all October exams
- Early October = exam materials arrive at sites and coordinators should open immediately to confirm accuracy of shipment; any errors should be reported to CollegeBoard immediately at 888-477-PSAT (7728); all materials should be securely locked away until exam day
- Wednesday, October 13 = exam day option 1 - students can keep test booklets
- Saturday, October 16 = exam day option 2 – must return test booklets to CollegeBoard
- Tuesday, October 26 = exam day option 3 - students can keep test booklets
- November 18 – December 10, 2021 = identify students who qualify for fee reductions
- December 2021 = PSAT/NMSQT score reports released online (<https://studentscores.collegeboard.org/home>) Online score reports include:
 - i. The skills students can work on to improve results on SAT.
 - ii. [Free, personalized SAT study materials](#) from Khan Academy®
 - iii. AP courses students should consider taking through [AP Potential™ feedback report](#) – sites should use this report for targeted recruitment into advanced courses for the upcoming school year
 - iv. [Career Finder](#), create your own career roadmap
 - v. College Search and Major and Career Search on [BigFuture](#)
 - vi. [SAT registration](#)

Payment – ONLY required if testing students other than 11th grade.

PSAT/NMSQT exams cost \$18.00 each. Each site must cover the cost of PSAT/NMSQT tests for its students in grade 9 or 10. School sites will make payments for any 9th or 10th graders who take the PSAT/NMSQT exam as they pay any other vendor.

For additional information regarding the PSAT/NMSQT exam, contact Rachel Amato – ramato@sandi.net or psat@info.collegeboard.org.

APPROVED:

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Chief, Leadership and Learning