

# Making the Most of PSAT/NMSQT Scores

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Millions of students across the country took the PSAT/NMSQT this past October. The PSAT/NMSQT is a test that measures the skills and knowledge that students need for postsecondary success, reflects what's taught in the classroom, and is a critical step on the road to college. With over half of North Carolina students taking the SAT at some point high school, the PSAT/NMSQT is also great practice for the test, because both tests have the same question types and formats. In fact, students who take the PSAT/NMSQT score higher, on average, on the SAT than those who do not.

As of December 12, educators and students have access to PSAT/NMSQT scores [online](#). Both can use the [results](#) to see areas where students are thriving, and pinpoint areas where they need additional support. And because PSAT/NMSQT scores are on the same scale as SAT scores, it's easy to track student progress over time.

PSAT/NMSQT electronic score reports give North Carolina students and educators access to more than just scores. Learn how students can get the most out of these tools and opportunities:

## **FREE, PERSONALIZED PRACTICE TOOLS FOR THE SAT**

Last year, the College Board and Khan Academy® teamed up to create [Official SAT® Practice](#). Since then, more than 2.5 million students have signed up and are working with interactive questions, instant feedback, video lessons, full-length practice tests, and more to get ready for the SAT.

When students connect their College Board and Khan Academy accounts, they can access a personalized study plan based on their results from the PSAT/NMSQT. It will show them the areas where they can grow the most. And here's the best part: These world-class tools are *free for every student*.

To take advantage of this great resource, students should head to [satpractice.org](https://satpractice.org) and sign up.

## **SCHOLARSHIPS**

The College Board's scholarship and recognition partners provide millions of dollars to qualified, low-income and minority students based on PSAT/NMSQT scores. The National Merit Scholarship Program, Hispanic Scholarship Fund, Jack Kent Cooke Foundation, United Negro College Fund, and many others are finding eligible students based on their test performance. Eligible students will be notified by our partners with more information.

## **AP POTENTIAL**

Both educators and students can see if students' PSAT/NMSQT scores indicate that they are likely to succeed in challenging Advanced Placement® (AP®) courses. Students who succeed on AP Exams can save money on tuition costs and are more likely to graduate on time. Additionally, research shows that students who score a 3 or higher on an AP Exam typically earn higher GPAs in college and have higher graduation rates.

Students can review their PSAT/NMSQT score report with their counselors and teachers to discuss which AP courses they showed the potential for and which courses are offered at their school. AP Potential helps

schools ensure that no student is overlooked and encourages more students to challenge themselves with college-level coursework in high school.

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Thanks to the commitment of educators across North Carolina, together we can ensure that students benefit from all the opportunities that these assessments offer.

*Scores from the PSAT/NMSQT can help students stay on track for college. Learn more at [psat.org](https://psat.org).*