

# PSAT Score Report

*Understanding & Using It to Increase College Readiness*



# Some information about the PSAT...

- The PSAT/NMSQT is the Preliminary SAT/National Merit Scholarship Qualifying Test.
- The PSAT/NMSQT is a great primer for the SAT.
- PSAT/NMSQT scores are used to identify National Merit Scholars.
- PSAT/NMSQT is a 2 hour, 45 minute multiple choice test that is given once a year (in October) and taken by more than 3.4 million high school students nationwide.
- PSAT/NMSQT scores do not count toward college admissions applications.
- The PSAT/NMSQT has two sections: Evidence-Based Reading and Writing, and Math. There is no penalty for guessing.
- PSAT/NMSQT multiple-choice questions are passage based and may include tables, graphs, and charts - math questions are centered around algebra, geometry, and some trigonometry.

# How is the PSAT/NMSQT scored?



- Each section is scored on a scale of 160 - 760.
- There are three (3) scores on the score report that should be considered: total score, evidence-based reading and writing score, and math score.
- The PSAT/NMSQT is scored using the same rubric as the SAT; however, the score range differ:

PSAT/NMSQT = 320 - 1520

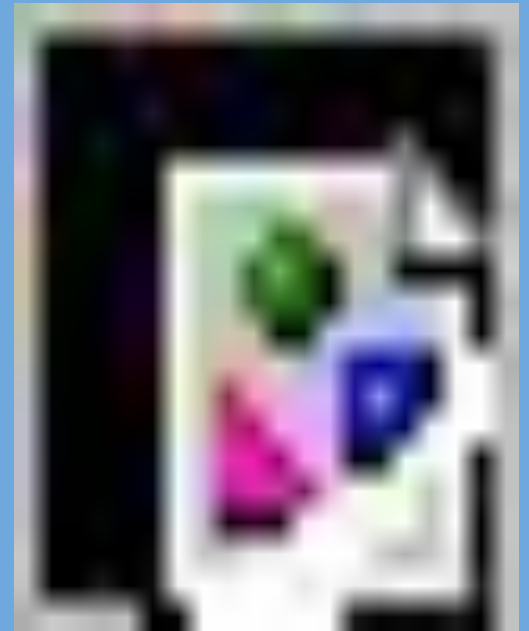
SAT = 400 - 1600

- The PSAT/NMSQT percentile compares the tester to everyone else who took the PSAT/NMSQT on that test date.  
***For example, 86th percentile means the student scored equal or higher than 86% of the students who took the test on that day.***

# Understanding the PSAT/NMSQT Big 3 Scores...

PSAT/NMSQT score report contains 3 scores known as the "Big 3 Scores."

- 1. TOTAL SCORE**
- 2. READING & WRITING SCORE**
- 3. MATH SCORE**



## PSAT/NMSQT Total Score Overview

The **total score** is the sum of the reading & writing score and the math score. The score range is 320 - 1520.

The total score can help predict how a tester may score on the SAT.

The percentiles allow testers to see how they rank against other testers.

High scores/percentiles earn Nat'l Merit recognition.

# PSAT/NMSQT Reading-Writing and Math Scores

The ***Reading & Writing*** portion of the PSAT is subdivided into READING and WRITING & LANGUAGE.

The ***Math*** portion is subdivided into MATH-Calculator and MATH-No Calculator.

Each portion (Reading-Writing and Math) have a score range of 160 - 760.

NOTE: Grade-level benchmarks can also be seen on the score report.

## Using Your Score Report...

The score report gives you access to more detailed information about your score. By signing into the [PSAT.org/myscore](https://psat.org/myscore) website, students can do some of the following:

- Dig deeper into testing data and get free personalized practice
- Learn about the questions they missed
- Look at PSAT test questions that were missed and study the explanation to the correct answer
- Identify which answer explanation may need additional explanation from a teacher.

## Useful Resources...

- College Board: [Understanding PSAT/NMSQT Scores Parent Webinar](#)
- PrepScholar: [ACT vs SAT: 11 Key Differences to Help You Pick the Right Test](#)



# Where to go from here?

## ACT/SAT Testing

- Juniors take the ACT Test at school in March
- It is encouraged for students to take an additional ACT and SAT at least once during their Junior year
- College Exploration through SCOIR
  - Parents receive their invitations through email