

PSAT and SAT in Colorado

Delivering More Opportunities for ALL Students



COLORADO
Department of Education

The PSAT and SAT in Colorado

Colorado's public school ninth- and 10th-graders take the PSAT, and 11th-graders take the SAT at no cost to the student. These assessments are aligned to the Colorado Academic Standards and provide other benefits to the student, including free, high-quality practice tools and scores that can be used for college and scholarship applications.

College Board's high school suite of assessments

The College Board provides a suite of high school assessments that serve as Colorado's state assessments for English language arts and mathematics, including the PSAT that is taken by ninth- and 10th-graders and the SAT that is taken by 11th-graders. The College Board was selected for these assessments following legislation in 2016 and 2017 that required assessments for ninth and 10th grade be aligned to each other, to the Colorado Academic Standards, and to the 11th grade college entrance exam.

The expected test date for the SAT in 2023 will be Wednesday, April 12. The makeup date for the SAT will be Tuesday, April 25. Districts will have a choice of April 12, 13 or 14, as the test date for the PSAT for ninth- and 10th-graders. Makeup dates for the PSAT will be April 25, 26, or 27.

PSAT and SAT Information

- PSAT uses a similar test blueprint as the SAT and serves as an introduction to the test because the questions and formats are similar.
- The PSAT tests are slightly shorter than the three-hour and 15 minute SAT and much shorter than the four-hour and 22 minute SAT with Essay. The PSAT 8/9 is two-hours and 35 minutes and the PSAT 10 is slightly longer at two hours and 55 minutes.
- The SAT is accepted for admission and placement purposes at all public colleges and universities in Colorado.
- The SAT is based on a 1600-point scale.
- In addition to overall scores, students taking PSAT or SAT will receive two section scores: evidence-based reading and writing and mathematics.
- About 2 million students take the SAT every year worldwide.
- Colorado sophomores began taking the PSAT in spring 2016. Juniors began taking the SAT in 2017, and freshmen took the PSAT 9 for the first time in 2018.





Improving outcomes for all students

The PSAT and SAT focus on concepts and skills that matter for college and career readiness. They are designed to inform instruction and ultimately help improve student outcomes. The tests can help identify students who are falling behind so teachers can intervene, and they can provide indicators to students' readiness for advanced coursework and to keep them on target for college.

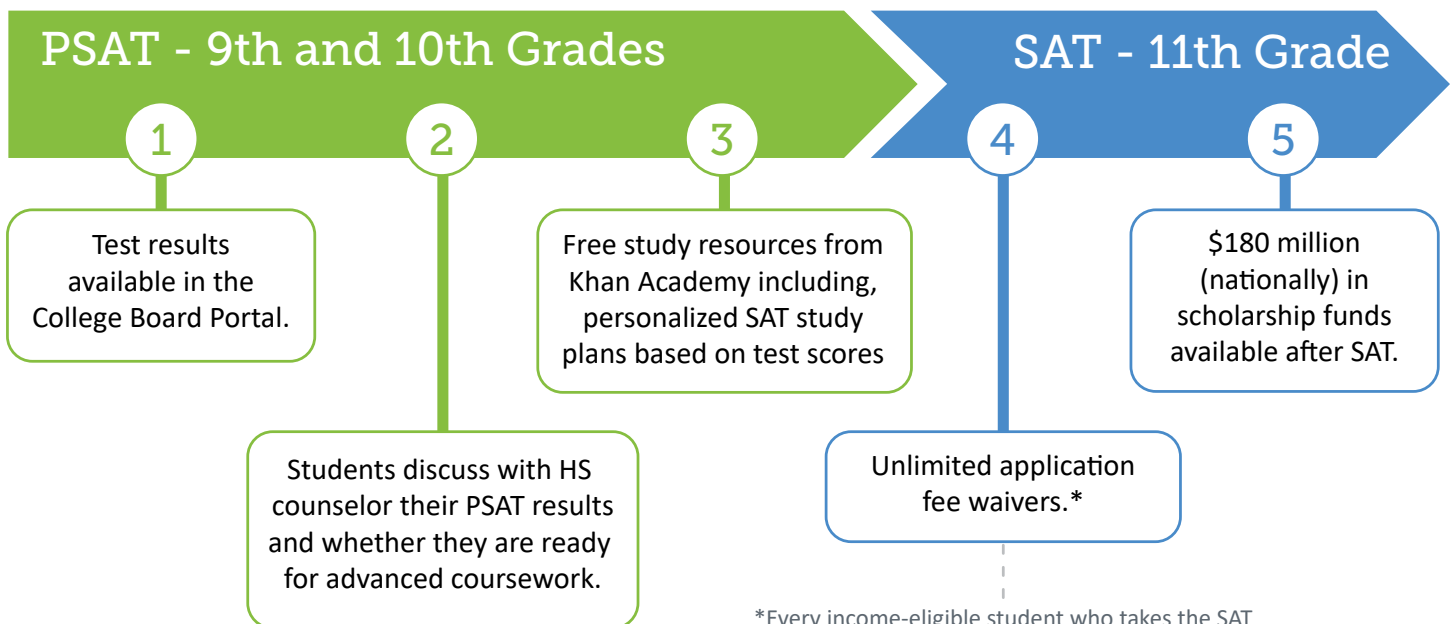
Free personalized SAT study plan

Interested students will be able to get a personalized SAT study plan based on their PSAT test scores. [Free resources from Khan Academy](#) include interactive questions, guided essay practice, video instruction sessions, thousands of practice questions, a mobile app for daily practice and the ability to scan and score practice tests.

Scholarship and college opportunities

Every income-eligible student who takes the SAT can receive four college application fee waivers, which may be used to apply to 2,000 participating colleges. All students can [opt in to the College Board Student Search](#) to receive free information about admission and financial aid opportunities from colleges, universities and scholarship programs.

PSAT/SAT timeline



*Every income-eligible student who takes the SAT will receive unlimited application fee waivers.