**Q1: When and where can students take the PSAT/NMSQT? And who can take it?**

**A1:** The PSAT/NMSQT will be administered at the 16 traditional Pinellas County high schools on the Primary Test Day. Go to the [College Board website](https://collegereadiness.collegeboard.org/psat-nmsqt-psat-10/k12-educators/psat-nmsqt-dates) for this year’s date.

**Q2: Who takes the PSAT/NMSQT?**

**A2:** All 9th & 10th grade students who attend PCS high schools will take the PSAT/NMSQT. Students in 11th grade who attend PCS high schools may opt to take the test in order to qualify for scholarships or recognitions such as a National Merit Scholarship or Hispanic Scholar recognition. Students who do not attend PCS high schools who would like to take the PSAT/NMSQT must register for the test and pay the $16 test fee no later than August 31st.

**Q3: Why should a high school student take the PSAT/NMSQT?**

**A3:** Not only will students receive an interactive score report with answer explanations, their projected SAT score and feedback on their readiness for Advanced Placement (AP) courses, but they will also connect to many resources that allow them to search for colleges and explore majors and careers. Among the resources they gain access to are:

* Links to free, personalized SAT practice through Khan Academy – Students get free SAT practice that includes a unique SAT study plan based on their own personal performance on PSAT/NMSQT.
* MyRoad – Students gain access to this online personality profiler to help them self-explore majors and careers.
* BigFuture – Students obtain help in exploring majors and finding colleges that are right for them through this online resource.
* Scholarship Opportunities– Taking the PSAT/NMSQT in the 11th grade provides entry into the National Merit Scholarship Program, the National Hispanic Recognition Program, the Achievement Scholarship Program for black students.
* Student Search Service – This is a way for colleges to reach prospective students and inform them of their opportunities. By opting into this service, students can have their information shared with colleges and qualified nonprofit educations or scholarship programs that are recruiting students. The information provided includes data such as names and score ranges, but exact scores and personal contact information beyond the mailing address is not provided. for college, financial aid and scholarship opportunities that connect to many scholarship organizations, including the American Indian Graduate Center, the Asian and Pacific Islander American Scholarship Fund, the Hispanic Scholarship Fund, the Jack Kent Cooke Foundation and the United Negro College Fund to name a few..

**Q4: Why does Pinellas County Schools administer the PSAT 8/9 to all 8th graders and the PSAT/NMSQT to all 9th & 10th graders?**

**A4:** The SAT Suite of Assessments (PSAT 8/9, PSAT/NMSQT & SAT) enhances our ability to measure performance, improve outcomes and build a college-going culture in our schools. The reporting portal will allow us to analyze data and visualize results across the span of assessments to prescribe interventions when students are ahead or behind on their progress toward being on target for college.

**Q5: How long is the PSAT/NMSQT?**

**A5:** The test takes approximately 2 hours and 45 minutes plus 10 minutes for breaks and up to 45-50 minutes for registration activities. It consists of the following sections:

60 minutes Reading with 47 questions/tasks

35 minutes Writing & Language with 44 questions/tasks

25 minutes Mathematics (no calculator) with 17 questions/tasks

45 minutes Mathematics (calculator) with 31 questions/tasks

**Q6: Are there any practice materials available for students to prepare for the PSAT/NMSQT?**

**A6:** Yes, the College Board has provided a practice test at [**collegeboard.org/psatpractice**](file:///\\a0040sfile2\emphome$\t\TOWNE-VIGUEJ\JVigue%20Docs\SAT%20Suite\PSAT\PSAT.NMSQT\collegeboard.org\psatpractice)

**Q7: May I use a calculator on the math portion of the PSAT/NMSQT?**

**A7:** There are two math sections. One section allows for the use of a calculator and the other does not. All questions can be answered without a calculator, but calculators are recommended for the section that allows it. Allowable calculators include 4 function calculators, scientific calculators and graphing calculators. Calculators that connect to the internet or other devices are not allowed, nor are calculators that make any noise.

**Q8: What should I bring with me on the day of the test?**

**A8:** No. 2 pencils (not mechanical), a calculator and your student ID number.

**Q9: What is the school code for a homeschool student and for a full-time FLVS student?**

**A9:** Homeschool students’ school code is 991099 and full-time FLVS students’ school code is 102414.

**Q10: Is there a penalty for wrong answers on the PSAT/NMSQT?**

**A10:** The redesigned assessments no longer have any penalty for wrong answers.