

# The Preliminary SAT/National Merit Scholarship Qualifying Test (PSAT/NMSQT)

is a program cosponsored by the College Board and [National Merit Scholarship Corporation \(NMSC\)](#). It's a standardized test that provides firsthand practice for the SAT®. It also gives you a chance to enter NMSC scholarship programs and gain access to college and career planning tools.

The PSAT/NMSQT measures:

- Critical reading skills
- Math problem-solving skills
- Writing skills

You have developed these skills over many years, both in and out of school. This test doesn't require you to recall specific facts from your classes.

The most common reasons for taking the PSAT/NMSQT are to:

- Receive feedback on your strengths and weaknesses on skills necessary for college study. You can then focus your preparation on those areas that could most benefit from additional study or practice.
- See how your performance on an admissions test might compare with that of others applying to college.
- Enter the competition for scholarships from NMSC (grade 11).
- Help prepare for the SAT. You can become familiar with the kinds of questions and the exact directions you will see on the SAT.

Source: <http://www.collegeboard.com/student/testing/psat/about.html>

## My College QuickStart™

**A college and career planning resource powered by your PSAT/NMSQT results.**

My College QuickStart is a valuable part of your PSAT/NMSQT experience. Best of all, it is FREE!

To access your most recent test results online, you need a College Board website account and the [access code](#) printed on your PSAT/NMSQT paper score report. It typically takes less than two minutes to create your **FREE account**.

**My College QuickStart includes these personalized features:**

- My Online Score Report—View your enhanced score report and see answer explanations for each test question
- My SAT Study Plan—A personalized plan based on your test performance, highlighting skills for review and a free practice test
- My College Matches—A starter list of colleges to help you begin your search
- My Major and Career Matches—Detailed profiles of majors and careers to match your interests and personality
- [Take a tour of My College QuickStart](#)

Source: [http://www.collegeboard.com/student/testing/psat/quickstart.html?BannerID=ba\\_190554&AffiliateID=1](http://www.collegeboard.com/student/testing/psat/quickstart.html?BannerID=ba_190554&AffiliateID=1)