



Timberlane Regional High School

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Guidance Department

PSAT 2016 Dates & Registration Information

Dear Parent/Guardian:

The PSAT/NMSQT (Preliminary SAT and National Merit Scholarship Qualifying Test) will be given at Timberlane Regional High School on **Saturday, October 15, 2016**. Your son/daughter should consider taking this test if he/she plans to attend a four-year or two-year college.

The PSAT/NMSQT is a preview of the SAT which is required for admission to many colleges and universities. It is also the qualifying test for junior year students for entry to the 2018 National Merit Scholarship Program. For more information please read the attached **PSAT Parent Perspective 2016**.

Test Registration begins on September 19th. Students can register in the Guidance Office with payment on or before October 7, 2016 (on-line registration is not available for the PSAT test). The cost to take the test is \$23.00 and payment will be accepted as cash or check. Please make checks payable to TRHS. Registrations after October 10th will be accepted as standby only on a space available basis. If the fee for the test imposes financial difficulties, please request a fee waiver from your student's guidance counselor. Students will be given a PSAT handout and practice test upon registration.

Important test day information: Students must report to their assigned room at 7:50 a.m. and will test until approximately 11:00 a.m. The testing starts promptly at 8:00 a.m. **Students will not be allowed to take or finish the test if they report late at check-in or following a break.** Please have your son/daughter bring two sharpened #2 lead pencils and a scientific or graphing calculator.

If you have any questions, please call the Guidance Department between 8:00 a.m. and 2:30 p.m. at 382-6541, ext. 3922.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads 'Barry Chooljian'.

Barry Chooljian
Director of Guidance

The PSAT/NMSQT® and PSAT™ 10: The Parent Perspective

Location: _____ Date: _____

Time: _____ Cost: _____

For more information, contact: _____

Frequently Asked Questions

Why should students take the PSAT/NMSQT® or the PSAT™ 10?

The PSAT/NMSQT or the PSAT 10 offer great preparation for the SAT®.

Students who take the PSAT/NMSQT in their third year of high school (11th grade) and meet other program entry requirements may enter the National Merit® Scholarship Program. They may also qualify for other programs such as the National Hispanic Recognition Program. For more information, see your student's counselor.

Students who take the PSAT/NMSQT or the PSAT 10 will get both an online score report at studentscores.collegeboard.org and an official paper score report. They will receive an overall test score (320–1520) as well as individual section scores, test scores, cross-test scores, and subscores. Students will be able to see which answers they got right or wrong. They will also get information on how to improve their academic skills.

Students will get free, personalized, online SAT practice recommendations on Khan Academy®, which can be used to prepare for both the PSAT/NMSQT and PSAT 10 because of the close alignment of the tests.

Who should take the PSAT/NMSQT?

Typically, students take the PSAT/NMSQT in 10th and 11th grade. Younger students can also take the test or the PSAT 10 to get a head start on improving skills and knowledge needed for success in college and career.

How many times may a student take each test?

Only once a year, but there is no limit to how many years a student may participate. It is

important that 11th-grade students take the PSAT/NMSQT to enter the National Merit Scholarship Program and to get SAT practice.

How should students prepare for the test?

Classroom learning is the basis for test questions, so the best way students can prepare is by taking challenging courses and becoming familiar with the test and its format. Students should review the *PSAT/NMSQT Student Guide* or *PSAT 10 Student Guide*, along with the practice test for the test they are taking, to help them understand all the directions and be familiar with the types of questions that will be asked. In addition, students who take the can go to collegeboard.org/psatpractice for free, personalized practice based on their results, which can be used to prepare for the SAT, the PSAT/NMSQT, or the PSAT 10.

If students don't do well on the test, will it hurt their chances of getting into college?

Absolutely not. Since it provides personalized information on the skills that a student needs to improve to prepare for the SAT and college, taking the test can even improve their chances. PSAT/NMSQT and PSAT 10 scores are not sent to colleges.

What is Student Search Service®, and should students choose to participate?

When students take the PSAT/NMSQT or PSAT 10, they are asked if they would like to participate in the College Board's Student Search Service, a free service that provides names of students to certified educational organizations. If students choose to participate, they allow colleges, universities, scholarship programs, and educational opportunity organizations to send information about the educational and financial aid opportunities they offer. Students who opt in to Student Search Service will increase their access to millions of dollars in combined annual scholarship awards. Student information is strictly monitored and secure, and individual test scores are never shared with any outside entity.

When can we expect to see the results from the PSAT/NMSQT? From the PSAT 10?

Score reports will be made available online in mid-December for PSAT/NMSQT and in mid-April for PSAT 10. Schools will receive paper PSAT/NMSQT score reports in January.

Score Reports

Your student's score report will include a total score, section scores, test scores, cross-test scores and subscores, all of which will give your student better insight to his or her performance. The score report will also include the NMSC Selection Index, which is calculated by doubling the sum of the Reading, Writing and Language, and Math Test scores.

Important PSAT/NMSQT Dates and Reminders

September 2016	Students should review the <i>PSAT/NMSQT Student Guide</i> and take the practice test inside. At collegeboard.org/psatpractice , students can access free, personalized, online practice via Khan Academy that can be used to prepare for the PSAT/NMSQT and PSAT 10.
October & November 2016	PSAT/NMSQT administration: Make sure your student eats breakfast and brings No. 2 pencils, an approved calculator, a watch (with no audible alarm), and his or her email address to the test administration. On test day, encourage your student to choose "Yes" for Student Search Service on the PSAT/NMSQT to increase his or her access to millions of dollars in combined annual scholarship awards and to get information from colleges, universities, and scholarship programs.
November 2016	Talk with your student about programs of study that interest him or her. Students in grade 11 should research colleges and universities. Visit collegeboard.org to help your student search for scholarships and learn more about paying for a college education.
December 2016	Score reports are made available online at studentscores.collegeboard.org . Visit collegeboard.org/sat-suite to access more information that will aid you in helping your student use his or her score report.
January 2017	Encourage your student to use free online resources in their online score-reporting portal at studentscores.collegeboard.org .
February 2017	Students in grade 11 should consider registering for the SAT in the spring.
March 2017	Student should select four, preferably five, solid academic courses for next year. They should check with their counselor about potential participation in AP courses. Review your student's AP potential feedback at studentscores.collegeboard.org .
April 2017	Check with counselors about college summer programs designed to introduce high school students to college success.
May/June 2017	Have your student request a summer reading list from his or her English teacher.

Preliminary SAT/National Merit Scholarship Qualifying Test
cosponsored by



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