

PSAT/NMSQT SCHOOL DAY: October 22, 2025

FAQ

On October 22, 2025, BHUSD will provide the official College Board PSAT/NMSQT to **all Juniors**. Please see the FAQ below and feel confident as you walk into testing day!

What is the PSAT/NMSQT?

The PSAT/NMSQT is the qualifying test for entry to the <u>National Merit® Scholarship Program</u>, an academic competition for recognition and scholarships. It is also a practice exam for the SAT and measures readiness for college.

What format is the test and can this be taken remotely?

This is now computer-based, students access the test in the Bluebook app. This is only administered in-person on campus.

Do I need to practice using Bluebook before test day?

Students are encouraged to get familiar with the digital format and practice using the available testing tools. Watch the <u>What to expect with the digital PSAT/NMSQT</u> video <u>here</u>.

How do I access Bluebook?

The Bluebook app has already been installed on your district issued device, the icon is on your desktop.

Do I need to sign up for the test on CollegeBoard?

No. The district has registered all students.

Do I need to let my teachers know I will be missing classes?

No. Teachers will be proctoring the exam, there are no classes that day.

What room number do I go to?

Room Assignments will be posted by the library and the STC courtyard on Monday October 20th.

What time do I need to be there?

The PSAT/NMSQT will begin promptly at **8:30 am**, please give yourself enough time to get to your room so we can begin on time. No late students will be admitted once testing has begun.

How long is the test?

Standard testing time is estimated to be finished by 11:45 am, barring any unforeseen circumstances. Extended testing time varies.

If I am absent that day can I make up the test on another date?

No. There is no make-up day. Junior students are expected to attend.

What do I bring the day of?

- Your fully charged district issued device and charger
- Pencil or pen (for use with the school provided scratch paper)
- Your school ID
- Calculator, if you prefer over the embedded desmos calculator in Bluebook (see approved calculators <u>here</u>)
- Water and snacks to consume during breaks

What not to bring:

• See full list of prohibited devices here

What does the PSAT/NMSQT exam consist of?

Evidence Based Reading and Writing and Math, each section is out of 760 for a total max score of 1520.

Note, the SAT is out of 1600. A perfect score on the PSAT is not necessarily an indicator of a perfect score on the actual SAT. It is a shorter, condensed version.

When will I get my test results back?

Scores will be available starting on November 6, 2025. Students can view scores by creating a <u>College Board student account</u>. If you provide your mobile number on test day you can also access your scores through the BigFuture® School mobile app.

Will my PSAT/NMSQT Scores get sent to colleges?

No! Your PSAT/NMSQT scores do not get sent to colleges and universities. You do have an option to have your scores up for scholarship consideration and non-profit organizations/college access programs, but not the colleges themselves.

What do I do if I'm unable to take the PSAT/NMSQT, but I want to qualify for National Merit?

A student who does not take the PSAT/NMSQT in October 2025 because of illness, an emergency, or other extenuating circumstance, but meets all other requirements for NMSC program participation, may still be able to enter the 2027 National Merit Scholarship Program. The student must write to NMSC as soon as possible after the PSAT/NMSQT administration to request information about procedures for alternate entry to the 2027 National Merit Scholarship Program. To be considered, a student must complete certain requirements before April 1, 2026.

What is the purpose of providing the PSAT/NMSQT?

The District is providing access for students in preparation for their post-secondary plans. In addition, the PSAT and SAT results provide larger data to help drive curriculum and placement throughout our high school.

When is a good time to begin preparing for the official SAT and/or ACT?

In addition to the PSAT, typically students take a mock ACT and decide which exam is best and prepare to take an official exam in the Spring semester of their Junior year. Students have more autonomy in how they use their exams in the admission process. As a large portion of colleges continue to remain test-optional, students have the ability to take exams and decide if and when to send their scores to colleges. Every college is different in what they require, we advise that you work with your counselor and the college center for more individualized planning. Please note, each student's college admission testing plan and post-secondary goal will vary, please see resources below for additional support.

Where can I go for additional information and resources?

- College Board PSAT/NMSQT
- Full length practice tests and prep
- PSAT/NMSQT Student Guide
- Bluebook Testing Tools
- The Compass Guide to College Admission Testing
- BHHS College Center College Admission Tests

What if I have additional questions?

Please contact Marisa Lederman, Coordinator of District Assessments & Data, mlederman@bhusd.org