

PSAT (Preliminary Scholastic Aptitude Test)

Assessments provide valuable information for students, parents and educators on whether students have mastered grade level and content standards and are on track to graduate prepared for the 21st century. These assessment results are intended to provide one measure in a body of evidence of your child's academic progress.



WHAT IS THIS ASSESSMENT?

The PSAT, or Preliminary Scholastic Aptitude Test, is the ninth and tenth grade Colorado state summative assessment for language arts and mathematics. Created by College Board, the PSAT is aligned to the Colorado Academic Standards and measures a student's mastery of the standards in reading, writing and language, and math.

Ninth grade students take the PSAT 9. Tenth grade students take the PSAT 10. Below is a chart showing the state assessments taken by grade:

Grade 3 – 8	Colorado Measures of Academic Success (CMAS)
Grade 9	PSAT 9
Grade 10	PSAT 10
Grade 11	SAT, CMAS Science, CMAS Social Studies

The PSAT helps students prepare for the SAT (Scholastic Aptitude Test), an important college entrance exam taken by all Colorado eleventh graders. Since the SAT is used by most colleges to accept students and grant scholarships, taking the PSAT is a key step for students preparing to go to college. The PSAT is similar to the SAT in questions and format, and scores on the PSAT provide a prediction of future SAT performance.



WHEN IS MY CHILD BEING TESTED?

The PSAT is given in April and administered using a pencil/paper format. The test is approximately 3 hours long. Check with your child's school for the specific testing schedule.



WHAT SCORE(S) WILL MY CHILD RECEIVE?

Students will receive scores between 320 and 1520. This score represents the combined score of student progress in the math section and the reading and writing section. The scores will not be included on student transcripts and will be mailed to students before the end of the school year.



HOW WILL THESE SCORES BE USED?

The PSAT and SAT are designed to inform instruction, ensure students are meeting grade-level expectations and are on track for college, identify those falling behind so that teachers can intervene, and to provide an indicator of student readiness for AP coursework. Student scores do not count for grades and are not included on college transcripts.



ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

We encourage you to be involved in your child's education. Please don't hesitate to reach out to your child's teacher for ways you can help your child at home and availability of testing accommodations.

More Information: Assessments

Visit:

- <http://assessments.dpsk12.org>
- <http://parents.collegeboard.org>

Resources: PSAT and SAT

Daily Practice for the New SAT | College Board

- Receive daily, sample questions and get immediate feedback.
- Allows students to practice on a regular basis.
- Students can complete PSAT or SAT practice tests using printed answer sheets, then take a picture and use the Scan and Score function.

Official SAT Practice | Khan Academy

- Students sign up for an account and receive personalized recommendations for areas of improvement based on their PSAT and SAT scores.
- Full-length practice tests, diagnostic quizzes, daily practice questions and preparation resources targeted to specific areas of the test are also available for free via Khan Academy's website:
<https://www.khanacademy.org/mission/sat>.

PSAT Practice | Boys & Girls Club

- We have partnered with the Boys & Girls Club to connect low-income students with online SAT and PSAT resources.

If you have questions or concerns about assessments, please contact your child's school directly or call Family Constituency Services at (720) 423-3054.