

SSAT INFORMATION SHEET

Who Should Take the Test?

The Secondary School Admission Test (SSAT) is the required admission test for various independent schools. **Please note:** Not all 8th or 9th grade students need to take the SSAT, and it is NOT required at public schools, or at most comprehensive or integrated support level schools. Please consult with the Secondary School Advising Office if you are unsure whether your child will need to take the SSAT, as many schools are currently test-optional.

Test Description

The SSAT consists of verbal, quantitative (math) and reading comprehension sections. The test also includes a writing section, which asks students to respond to one of two prompts. The essay is not graded; however, a copy accompanies each SSAT score report that is sent to a school or consultant.

The SSAT is a norm-referenced test. It compares a student's performance on the SSAT with that of other students of the same grade/gender who have taken the SSAT in the United States and Canada on a standard test date in the previous three years (norm group). It is important to note that the norm group is a highly competitive group. The SSAT score is one part of a student's complete application, and while it is important, it is not the only criteria for admission.

Test Prep Options

According to SSAT, "the best way to prepare for the SSAT is to become familiar with the content, format, timing, and scoring of the test." The following are several options to help a student prepare for the test:

1. Test Prep Book: The Official Guide to the Upper Level SSAT:

- For students currently in Grades 8-11
- Available for purchase on the SSAT website
- Includes: Two full-length Upper Level practice tests, information about registering for, preparing for, and taking the Upper Level SSAT, scoring instructions and explanations, descriptions and exercises for each question type

2. The SSAT Website contains an SSAT Online Practice Program to help students prepare for the test.

<https://www.ssat.org/prepare/practice>

3. Private Tutorial: There are many private tutoring/prep courses available. Please contact the Placement Office for details.

Registering for the SSAT

- Determine if the SSAT is a requirement for your child’s school applications. If you are unsure, please contact the Secondary School Advising at Carroll School.
- Go to ssat.org and create an account
- Request accommodations through ssat.org. Please refer to the “Requesting Accommodations for the SSAT” document. Once you submit your request for accommodations through the SSAT, the Secondary School Advising Office will receive notification. Upon the Secondary School Advising approval of your request, you should receive an email stating that you are able to register for a test.
- Register for the test. **NOTE: If you are requesting accommodations, they must be approved before you can actually register for a specific test date/location.**
- Go to ssat.org/test-center-search to find a test site that can support special accommodations. Please note that taking the SSAT outside of a listed site does have some restrictions, please review the information contained on the SSAT website or contact the Secondary School Advising Office for more information.
- **IMPORTANT: When registering for the SSAT, please list Carroll School as a score recipient and as an advisor. The Carroll School Score Recipient Code is 2134.**
- List all schools that you would like to receive your child’s scores. This may also be completed after the test has been taken.
- Once you have registered, you will find your SSAT Admission Ticket in your SSAT account. Please be sure to check the Admission Ticket once your registration is complete. Specifically, please check the requested accommodations. Checking your ticket early for errors will allow for ample to make any adjustments.

Helpful Resources Available at ssat.org

Please visit ssat.org for further, up-to-date information. The SSAT website contains a great deal of information on preparing for and taking the test, as well as applying to schools. Please take some time to review the site. This is a valuable resource that can answer many of your questions.

SSAT Contact Information:

For questions related specifically to the SSAT:

Website: <https://www.ssat.org/>

Phone SSAT: 609-683-4440 (M-F 9:00am-4:30pm EDT)