


Oct 13 Test Day Options for Juniors

ALL JUNIORS will take ONE of these two exams on October 13 @ SME

	<u>PSAT</u>	Locally-scored Practice ACT
How do I register?	<p>Juniors will register for the PSAT through Total Registration. Use this link or scan this QR code to register:</p> 	<p>Any junior who doesn't register for the PSAT will take the Locally-scored Practice ACT. (No registration necessary.)</p>
Is there a fee?	<p>The fee for juniors who register for the PSAT is \$21.</p>	<p>There is no fee for the Locally-scored Practice ACT.</p>

<p>Is there a deadline to register?</p>	<p>Deadline to register for the PSAT is Friday, September 24th at 3:00 p.m.</p>	<p>Any junior who does not register for the PSAT by September 24th will take the Locally-scored Practice ACT. (No registration necessary.)</p>
<p>When will I get my scores?</p>	<p>Scores are released to students online on their College Board account in December.</p>	<p>Score reports will be given to students at school in late November or early December.</p>

Continue reading below for more details about each test and how they compare:

How do I know which test I should take?

- Both tests help students **identify their readiness for college and for the college entrance exams they may take later**—either the **ACT** or the **SAT**.
- **All colleges and universities in the US now accept both the SAT and the ACT** and will almost always take whichever score is higher. Some students may take only the ACT, while others may take only the SAT, and some students take both.
- **Many colleges and universities are “test-optional” now, which means they do not require any standardized test scores for admission.** However, many of these schools may still require test scores for financial aid and scholarship consideration. Families need to check the policies of the specific colleges and universities they’re considering.
- There is no fee for the Oct. 13th Locally-scored Practice ACT at SME (for either grade level). The sophomore PSAT is free, but there is a \$21 fee for the junior PSAT.

Why should I take the PSAT in sophomore or junior year (or both)?

- The [PSAT](#) (Preliminary SAT) provides college-readiness feedback and preparation for the SAT.
- If you earn a high enough score on the PSAT in your **junior** year, you may qualify to earn a National Merit Scholarship. (Top ½ of 1% of all juniors in the state of Kansas.)
- Taking the PSAT in October of the **junior** year will enter the student in the [National Merit Scholarship Competition](#).
- The **sophomore** PSAT score does **not** count for National Merit Competition, but provides **practice** for the junior year PSAT.
- The PSAT is given only once each year.
- SME sophomores will be taking the PSAT, the same test the juniors are taking (not the “PSAT 10”, which is a different test).

Why should I take the Locally-scored Practice ACT (in sophomore or junior year or both)?

- Students who take the **Locally-scored Practice ACT** in October will receive a score report with scores in the four subject areas, which will also indicate whether they have met college-readiness benchmarks in each area.
- The **Locally-scored Practice ACT** score is not reported to any college or university and is never considered for admissions purposes. It provides practice for the real ACT and would provide a baseline score for comparison to the real test.
- All **juniors** will have the opportunity to take a **FREE, REAL ACT on a weekday at SME in March**. Details will be shared later in the fall.
- **In addition, students have opportunities throughout the year to take a real ACT on Saturdays at various locations in the KC metro area.** There is a fee for each Saturday ACT and registration must be done by the student on the [ACT website](#). Students may take one or more of these Saturday tests in addition to the free ACT at SME in March (juniors only), if their college or scholarship goals indicate a need to try to improve their scores.

How do I register and is there a deadline?

- The **deadline to register for the PSAT** (for both sophomores and juniors) is **Fri., Sept. 24th at 3:00 pm**.
- **PSAT Registration is done online, but the links are different for each grade level.** Please use the link or QR code in the chart above for your grade level to ensure you are registered accurately.
- Students **do not need to register for the Locally-scored Practice ACT**. Any sophomore or junior who does not register for the PSAT will take the Locally-scored Practice ACT.

- If a student registers for the PSAT and later **changes their mind**, and wishes to take the Locally-scored Practice ACT, they must notify counselor Susan Barr, susanbarr@smsd.org, no later than September 24th at 3:00 pm to switch their registration to the Locally-scored Practice ACT.

Need more help in deciding which test option is right for you?

Contact your counselor:

A – EL: Traci Ybarra tracybarra@smsd.org
Em – K: Michele Grimes michelegrimes@smsd.org
L – Re: Susan Barr susanbarr@smsd.org
Rh – Z: Brenda Tretbar brendatretbar@smsd.org
Real World Learning: Jodee Merriman jodeemerriman@smsd.org