Bellarmine College Preparatory

High School Placement Test (HSPT)
Important Information and FAQs

I. General Information

a. The High School Placement Test (HSPT) is a required element of the 9th grade application to Bellarmine College Preparatory. It is also required by other Catholic Schools in the Bay Area.
b. Bellarmine offers two opportunities in January to take the exam on our campus. Students who are applying to Bellarmine are not required to take the HSPT on our campus. There is no penalty for taking the HSPT in another testing location, nor is there any benefit for Bellarmine applicants to take the HSPT on our campus.

II. Dates

a. Date: Saturday, January 10, 2026, 1:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m.
b. Date: Saturday, January 24, 2026, 1:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m.

III. Registration

a. Parents can self-register their students for the exam via Ravenna.

IV. Test Timing

a. We allot 3 total hours for the HSPT exam.
b. The actual working time for the exam's completion is 2 hours and 23 minutes.
c. The HSPT is broken down into five sections.
    i. Section #1: Verbal Skills (18 minutes).
    ii. Section #2: Quantitative Skills (30 minutes).
    iii. Section #3: Reading – Comprehension & Vocabulary (25 minutes).
    iv. Section #4: Mathematics (45 minutes).
    v. Section #5: Language (25 minutes).
d. An additional 30 minutes is allotted for distribution of test materials, reading test directions, and providing rest periods.
e. Test takers will take a 5-minute break after Section #2.
f. Test takers will take a 2-minute break after Section #3.

V. Initial Steps

a. Students will complete a required personal information section at the beginning of test administration.
b. During this period, students will have the opportunity to mark the school(s) that they would like their HSPT results to be sent to.

VI. What to Bring

a. Students should bring the following on the day of testing:
    i. Several No. 2 Pencils with Erasers (no mechanical pencils may be used.)
    ii. Water bottle (optional).
    iii. Snack (optional).

b. Students may dress comfortably but may not have a hood, a hat, or any headwear on during their exam.
c. Students are not allowed to use a calculator on any exam section.
d. If necessary and requested, students will be provided with scratch paper.
e. We will provide several food options (chips, muffins, fruit, etc.) for students during their 5-minute break after Section #2. Students are also welcome to bring their own snacks.

VII. Other Reminders

a. Students may use the restroom individually at any time during the exam period.
b. All belongings beyond pencils, erasers, a water bottle, and a snack will need to be placed under the student's desk and cannot be accessed during the exam period.
c. Students are not permitted to use their smartphone, laptop, tablet, or any electronic device during the exam period. This includes wearable technology (Apple Watches, etc.)
d. Students are not permitted to use timing devices (stopwatches, timers, etc.) during the exam period. The time allotment and remaining time for each section will be periodically communicated by the exam proctor, and there are digital clocks in each exam room.
e. If a student is determined to be in violation of the stated rules and requirements, or if a student is suspected of or determined to be cheating, their exam may be removed, and the student may not be permitted to continue the exam. These situations will be handled at the discretion of the supervising proctor and the Bellarmine Admissions staff.

VIII. Preparation

a. Bellarmine does not offer an HSPT preparation course, nor does it endorse any specific test preparation material.
b. Students may use materials from major test-preparation companies, take an HSPT preparation course, or prepare in whatever avenue would serve them best.

IX. Communication

a. For all HSPT related inquiries, please email admissions@bcp.org, and a member of our team will respond as soon as possible.