PSAT™ 8/9

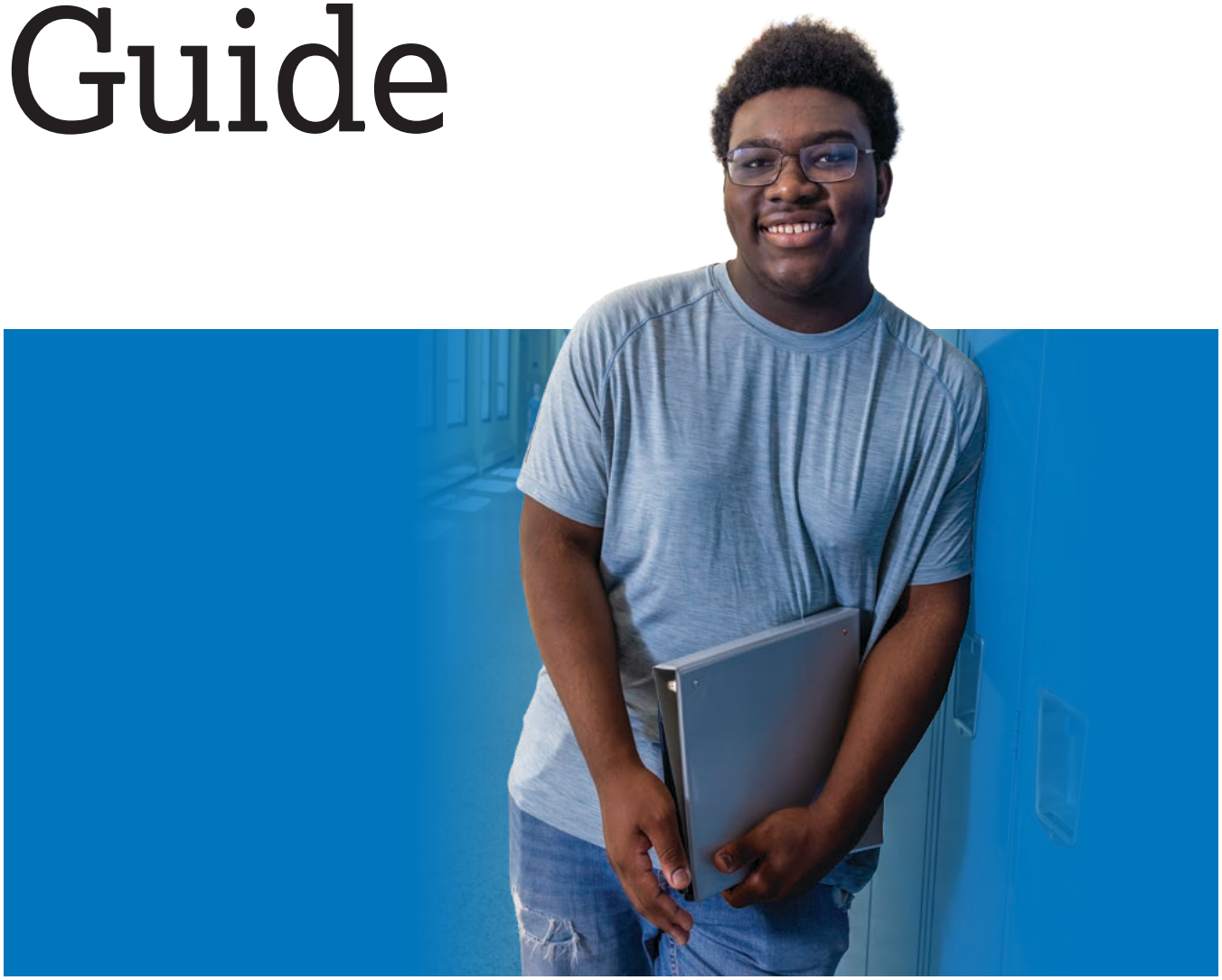
2025-26

## PSAT™ 8/9

# Student Guide

PSAT 8/9 information

Test-taking advice and tips



# About College Board

College Board reaches more than 7 million students a year, helping them navigate the path from high school to college and career. Our not-for-profit membership organization was founded more than 120 years ago. We pioneered programs like the SAT® and AP® to expand opportunities for students and help them develop the skills they need. Our BigFuture® program helps students plan for college, pay for college, and explore careers. Learn more at **cb.org**.

## PSAT 8/9 Customer Service

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# Test-Taking Information

## Using This Guide

The PSAT™ 8/9 is designed to be taken as you start your high school journey. It will help you understand your current knowledge and skills and how to reach your goals. Your results will help establish a baseline as you start your high school journey, and help your teachers focus classroom instruction to support your growth. You'll also get guidance to help you explore careers that match your interests and skills and information to help you search for colleges. We've created this guide to help you:

- Become familiar with the test and the Bluebook™ testing application so you know what to expect on test day.
- Learn about the structure of the test, how to prepare for it, and how it is scored.
- Plan your review of the PSAT 8/9 Testing Rules. **You will be required to review and agree to the Testing Rules in Bluebook before testing.**

**IMPORTANT:** You will be bound by the Testing Rules as they exist on test day. Prior to testing, you must review any updates to these Testing Rules, which are available at **cb.org/psat89-rules**.

**Additional Guidance**

If your test is state-provided, some fees, dates, and special testing situations (such as students who don't attend your school) may not apply.

## How the PSAT 8/9 Is Organized

The PSAT 8/9, and all tests in the SAT® Suite of Assessments, uses multistage adaptive testing. Each test section (Reading and Writing, Math) is divided into 2 equal-length, separately timed parts, called modules. You answer a set of questions in the first module before moving on to the next. The questions that you are given in the second module depend on how you performed on the first module.

This type of adaptive testing allows for a much shorter, but just as reliable, assessment that delivers accurate scores more efficiently.

The test breaks down like this:

**TEST ORGANIZATION**

| Section | Time Allotted (min.) | Number of Questions |
|---|---|---|
| Reading and Writing | 64 | 54 |
| Math | 70 | 44 |

The PSAT 8/9 follows the same timing as all other tests in the SAT Suite, so you'll be preparing yourself for the same format as the PSAT 10 and the SAT.

You must complete all sections of the test based on your approved timing. If you have been approved for extended time (up to time and one-half, up to double time, or more), you have the option of moving to the next part of the test before your full extended time expires, once the standard testing time has passed. For more information, see If You Need Testing Accommodations on page 5. If you leave before dismissal, your test may be considered incomplete or may be subject to cancellation. Do not close your laptop lid or cover or turn off your tablet screen at any point until you are dismissed.

# Bluebook Digital Testing

Bluebook is our custom-built application you'll use to take the PSAT 8/9 and all other tests in the SAT Suite, so taking the PSAT 8/9 will be good practice for future tests. Ask your school how to download and access Bluebook. They will provide you with a sign-in ticket. You may be able to familiarize yourself with key aspects of the app before the test if your school holds student readiness activities. For more information about readiness, please see Before You Test on page 3.

If you want to preview Bluebook, you can download the application to your personal device.

## Bluebook Tools

Bluebook includes plenty of test tools. Here are some examples:

- **Mark for review:** You can flag and return to any question within a given test module that you want to come back to later.
- **Testing timer:** A clock counts down the time remaining in each module. You can hide the timer, and you get an alert when 5 minutes remain in the module. When there are only 5 minutes remaining, the clock can no longer be hidden.
- **Calculator:** A built-in Desmos calculator is available for the entire Math section. You can toggle between the scientific and graphing Desmos calculators at any point during the Math section. The calculator is provided in the Bluebook practice test to allow you to practice with it before the test. (You can also bring your own acceptable calculator; please see **PSAT 8/9 Calculator Use** for more information.)
- **Line reader:** Use this tool to focus as you read test content.
- **Reference sheet:** On the Math section, you have access to a list of common formulas.
- **Highlights & Notes:** On non-math questions, you can highlight any part of a passage and leave yourself a note. You can change the highlight color, add an underline, make a note, or delete the highlight. A Windows tablet must have an external keyboard in order to use the Highlights & Notes tool in Bluebook.
- **Option eliminator:** If you think an answer option is wrong, you can cross it out.
- **Question menu:** Students can see which questions they skipped or marked for review and navigate to any question in the module.

You can use keyboard shortcuts on laptops or pinch and zoom on tablets to get a closer look at any part of the question, and you can set up your device before testing to use color contrast.

## Digital Testing Disruptions

An internet connection is required to start the test, but Bluebook will keep running even if your connection drops momentarily. At the end of the test, if you're still offline, work with your school to make sure your answers are submitted once internet access resumes. If your device battery runs down, you can simply plug in, restart your device, and pick up where you left off—all your work will be saved, and you won't lose testing time.

If the app crashes during your exam, just relaunch it and hit **Resume Testing**. Raise your hand so the proctor can approve your re-entry, and you'll return to the question you were on. The testing timer will be paused until you resume testing.

# Before You Test

If you plan to take the PSAT 8/9 at the school you normally attend, your school, district, or state will register you and let you know if you need to bring your own or a school-issued device or if one will be provided for you on test day. School staff will also provide you with sign-in information that is unique to you.

Before you test, staff at your school may hold a student readiness check. In this session, you'll sign in to Bluebook with a sign-in ticket that's unique to you, run a quick device check, complete exam setup, and try out a test preview. During exam setup, which will happen either during the student readiness check or right before the test, you'll have the chance to confirm your personal information and you'll be required to review and agree to the PSAT 8/9 Testing Rules. You should review them beforehand at **cb.org/psat89-rules**. It's important to confirm your personal information is correct after you sign in to the testing application with your sign-in ticket. If your information is incorrect or you received someone else's sign-in ticket, tell school staff immediately.

During exam setup, you'll also have the opportunity to answer questions about yourself, your educational experience, and your plans for after you graduate high school. All questions are optional. If any of your answers differ from answers you have given us on previous in-school tests, we'll use your latest information.

College Board may use the information you provide:

- To verify your identity;
- To administer the test, including with any necessary third parties;
- To provide your score information;
- To maintain the fairness and validity of our tests;
- For test security purposes;
- For test accommodations purposes;
- On a de-identified basis, for psychometric and educational research purposes, to demonstrate the effectiveness of our programs and services, and to maintain, develop, support, improve, and diagnose our services and applications;
- To disclose as required by law, when we believe in good faith that it's necessary to protect our rights, protect an individual's safety or the safety of others, investigate fraud, or respond to a government request.

Your school, school district, and state may receive your responses. Institutions that receive your information are required to keep it confidential and to follow College Board guidelines for using this information.

See the PSAT 8/9 Testing Rules for more information on use and disclosure of the information you may choose to provide.

If you choose to use the BigFuture® School mobile application, we'll use your information to provide you with educational information and insights about college and career options.

More information about the BigFuture School mobile app can be found in BigFuture School on page 14.

# Away Students

If your test is state-provided, the following section may not apply.

If you are a homeschooled student or plan to take the PSAT 8/9 at a school that's different from the school you attend, you'll need to complete the following steps before the deadline:

- Use our **in-school assessment search tool** to find a testing institution near you.
- Reach out to staff at the testing institution 4 weeks before the testing window begins to request to be included in their registration file. (Check the administering school district website for applicable deadlines. Some districts may need this step completed earlier.)

  Provide the following information for registration:

  - First and last name.
  - Date of birth.
  - Name/Attending Institution (AI) code for the school you normally attend and student ID (if you're homeschooled, you'll only need to share that you're homeschooled). Ask your school counselor if you do not know your AI code or student ID.
  - Gender.
  - Your Services for Students with Disabilities (SSD) number if you are approved to test with accommodations.
- Confirm whether the testing institution will provide you with a device or if you need to bring a testing device on test day.

  If you would like to find out more about testing at a school you do not normally attend, visit our **Homeschooled and Away Students** webpage.

**IMPORTANT:** Away Students must bring a valid photo ID with them for check-in on test day. Please see the PSAT 8/9 Testing Rules for information about acceptable photo identification.

# Special Considerations

If your test is state-provided, the following section may not apply.

Here are some situations you may need to prepare for.

**If you know in advance that you cannot take the test when your school offers it:** Tell your counselor as soon as possible that you have a conflict, such as a religious observance. You may be able to take the test at another time as an Away Student (see previous section) at a nearby school that has selected a different test date. When you reach out to the school you don't normally attend to register, be prepared to provide your school code and student ID, which you can get from your counselor. Bring your acceptable photo ID with you on the day of the test. You'll need to keep your ID with you at all times, especially if you leave the testing room.

**If you are homeschooled and want to take the PSAT 8/9:** Make arrangements in advance with your local school or another nearby school that is administering the test. Contact PSAT 8/9 Customer Service (see page ii) if you need help finding a school in your area that's giving the test.

**You will be studying in another country when the test is given:** Contact PSAT 8/9 customer service and provide the name of the city and country and, if known, the name and address of the school you will be attending when the test is given. PSAT 8/9 customer service will send you instructions. Use the **in-school assessment search tool** and include the country where you'll be in your search. You'll need to contact the test coordinator at that school with the information listed above to request registration at least four weeks before the testing window begins.

# PSAT 8/9 Test Dates

The PSAT 8/9 testing window is March 2–April 30, 2026. Ask your counselor or principal when you will test. While different students from your school may test on different days, each student can only obtain one valid score during the testing window. If an irregularity occurs that warrants a retest, you have up to two opportunities to retest to obtain a valid score.

# Testing Devices

Most schools participating in the PSAT 8/9 will use school-managed devices for testing. In those cases, the school staff will have downloaded Bluebook and made sure that the testing device is charged and ready for testing. It is good practice for you to review your device's battery life and notify staff if it's not fully charged.

If your school allows you to test on a personal device, you must download the exam app onto your device before testing. (A personal device is one that you bring for your use in testing and that is not provided by your school. Personal Chromebooks cannot be used for testing.) Your device must also be able to connect to Wi-Fi and be charged enough to stay on for roughly three hours. We recommend you bring a power cord or portable charger, but we can't guarantee you'll have access to an outlet. You're permitted to bring an external mouse for your device and an external keyboard if your device is a tablet. Windows tablets require an external keyboard. You can't use detachable device privacy screens. All other applications and programs must be closed during the test.

If you are bringing a personal device for testing, visit **Approved Testing Devices** for more information about device requirements.

# If You Need Testing Accommodations

If you have a disability that requires accommodations such as a screen reader, extra breaks, or permission to test blood sugar, be sure to have your school request College Board approval at least seven weeks before the test date you need the accommodations for. Requests for accommodations are handled by the College Board SSD office. For more information about requesting accommodations and timing, visit our **Advice for Students and Families** webpage.

Most students with accommodations test digitally, and many accommodations are provided right in Bluebook. For example, if you're approved for extended time, you'll receive a digital exam enabled with your approved amount of extended time per section. If you need large print, you can use zoom. If you need assistance with reading, you might be approved for Text-to-Speech (Embedded) or Screen Reader (Non-Embedded).

Check your accommodations prior to testing to ensure you know what accommodation you've been approved for. Some accommodations may be administered differently on the PSAT 8/9 than in the classroom. Speak to your SSD coordinator if your accommodation is not what you need. Visit the **Using Accommodations** webpage for more information about digital accommodations.

When considering accommodations, note the following:

- Work with your school's SSD coordinator or counselor for accommodations requests. Your SSD coordinator or other appropriate school staff can help determine what accommodations are best for you and submit a request online.
- The quickest and most efficient way to request accommodations is to work with your school. However, if you want to request accommodations without your school, download and submit a Student Eligibility Form from the **Requesting Without Going Through the School** webpage.
- Once approved for accommodations, with some exceptions, you remain approved and do not have to apply again when taking another College Board test.
- If you move to a new school after you've been approved for accommodations, provide them with your SSD number.

- If you're approved for extended time for math, you'll get it just for math; but if you're approved for extended time for reading, you'll get it for the whole test.
- Talk to your SSD coordinator to confirm what accommodations you're approved for and any additional information you need for testing.
- If you are approved for text-to-speech (embedded in Bluebook, with no configuration needed) or screen reader (non-embedded), be sure to practice with your accommodation ahead of test day to ensure you understand how it will work with the digital test.
- The new **Accommodations & Supports Dashboard** is a student portal where you can see your decision letters and accommodations. Make sure that your school's SSD coordinator has your email address so that you'll be able to access the dashboard easily.

The PSAT 8/9 is accessible to students approved to use assistive technology, including a screen reader and text-to-speech. If you are approved for text-to-speech, you'll use the tool built into Bluebook. No setup is needed. If you are approved for a screen reader, you'll use your own assistive technology software or the software that is part of the operating system on your testing device. For screen readers or other assistive technology, you'll need to open and start the assistive technology device or software before you open Bluebook for practice and for testing. On test day, adjust any necessary settings before you start to check in for the digital test. Visit our **Accommodations and Assistive Technology** webpage for detailed information about using assistive technology with Bluebook. Additionally, the app has extensive content to answer your questions about setup, navigation, and tools to help you access test content.

**IMPORTANT:** Starting in 2025, if you have an accommodation for extended time, once the standard time has elapsed for a module, you can move on when you're ready rather than having to wait until your approved time is up. We encourage you to use your full allotted time and you should only move ahead if you have completed the module. As always, at the end of the test, wait until testing staff have confirmed that your test has been submitted before closing the lid to your laptop, turning off your tablet screen, closing Bluebook, or shutting down your device. Please visit **SSD Updates** for more information.

**Important**

Bluebook now has a built-in (embedded) text-to-speech feature for students approved for this accommodation. For more information, please see our **Accommodations and Assistive Technology** webpage.

**Additional Guidance**

It is very helpful to practice taking a digital test with the technology you plan to use to test. Please see Prepare for the PSAT 8/9 on page 8 for more information about practice.

# English Learner Support

Supports such as word-to-word dictionaries, translated test directions, and extended time are available for non-English proficient or limited-English proficient English learners. If you need English learner (EL) support, work with your school to help ensure it will be there on test day. Talk to your school counselor if you'd like more information.

# Privacy Policies

College Board recognizes the importance of protecting your privacy. Please review our privacy policies at **collegeboard.org/privacy-center** ("Privacy Policies") and the PSAT 8/9 Testing Rules at **cb.org/psat89-rules** to understand our collection, use, and disclosure of your personally identifiable information.

# Telemarketing Scams

We sometimes get reports of phone scams when callers posing as employees of College Board try to sell test preparation products or request sensitive, personally identifying information, such as credit card and Social Security numbers. College Board does not make unsolicited phone calls or send emails to students or families requesting this type of information. This type of activity, known as telemarketing fraud, is a crime and should be reported to the Federal Communications Commission (FCC). Please visit **Important Information About Telemarketing and Internet Scams** for more information.

# Test Question Inquiries

If you find what you consider to be an error or an ambiguity in a test question, tell the proctor immediately after the test. You also have the option to complete the Test Questions Error or Ambiguity form if you prefer or if testing is already over.

In your inquiry, provide your name and email address, the date you took the PSAT 8/9, the name and address of the school where you took the test, the test section and module, the test question (as well as you can remember), and an explanation of your concern about the question.

College Board will send you a response after your inquiry has been reviewed thoroughly by subject-matter specialists. If you submit a report for what you consider to be an error or an ambiguity in a test question, you understand that College Board may need to hold your PSAT 8/9 score for review. As a result, your score may not be available by the published release date for your administration.

# Additional Information on the SAT Suite of Assessments

## Procedures to Ensure Fairness and Access

College Board combats any bias in our tests with our review processes. Fairness reviewers help ensure that test materials are accessible to all students, have no offensive or insensitive content, and aren't made easier or harder by factors outside the subject being measured. You can download a copy of the **Assessment Framework for the Digital SAT Suite** to learn about fairness on the tests.

# Prepare for the PSAT 8/9

You may have an opportunity to practice for the PSAT 8/9 before testing as part of your school's student readiness activities. The school where you're testing will register you and provide sign-in credentials for Bluebook during these activities.

College Board offers many official ways to help you prepare for the PSAT 8/9 at **sat.org/practice**. Here are some of them:

## Test Preview

To prepare for the PSAT 8/9, you'll have access to a test preview within Bluebook. This tool helps you:

- Get familiar with functions in the app.
- See the structure of the test.
- Try a small sample of reading and writing and math questions to familiarize yourself with the kinds of questions you'll encounter on test day and with how to properly enter your answers.
- Try all the testing tools and experience how the digital tests work with any assistive technology you're approved to use.

## Full-Length Adaptive PSAT 8/9 Practice Tests

Taking a full-length practice test for the PSAT 8/9 will let you experience digital testing and familiarize yourself with test content, including the types of questions you'll answer and the exam tools you'll use to take the test. Your school may run a full-length practice session during the student readiness check. You may also choose to access additional practice tests in Bluebook during your own study time using the sign-in credentials provided by your school. If you'll be using a personal device for testing, you can also make sure your device supports the app and is ready to use on test day.

Both sections on the PSAT 8/9, (1) Reading and Writing and (2) Math, have 2 modules. Depending on how you answer the questions in the first module, you'll be routed to a second module, which has a different mix of difficulty levels. The mix of questions in the second module is, on average, either of higher difficulty or of lower difficulty than the mix in the first module. Taking a practice test in Bluebook helps you gain experience and comfort with the way you'll be assessed on test day.

The full-length practice tests will also give you a score.

1. Download the Bluebook app at **bluebook.collegeboard.org**.
2. Go to **Practice and Prepare** on the Bluebook homepage, and select **Full-Length Practice**. (You will need the sign-in credentials provided by your school to access full-length practice.)
3. After you've finished the practice test in Bluebook, go to **My Practice** at **mypractice.collegeboard.org** and sign in with the same credentials provided by your school to view your score results and to review your practice exam questions and their skill level, as well as the answers, and explanations.

# Official SAT Prep on Khan Academy

The SAT course content on Khan Academy® includes videos, articles, and worked examples designed to help you understand and experience the SAT Suite. Visit khanacademy.org.

# Student Question Bank

You can use the Student Question Bank to design your own practice. The question bank has thousands of official practice questions and you can filter by assessment, section (Reading and Writing or Math), domain, skill, and difficulty level. You can go to **My Practice** at **mypractice.collegeboard.org** and sign in with the same credentials provided by your school to access the **Student Question Bank**.

## Additional Practice

You can also try targeted practice questions in My Practice. If you click on the **Practice Specific Questions** link, My Practice gathers a tailored set of questions from our Student Question Bank based on your performance on a practice test. These questions are specifically designed to help you build your skills at a level that's right for you.

## Question of the Day

The Question of the Day web app is a fun and fast way to check your knowledge. Each day, you can choose to answer a Reading and Writing question or a Math question. The content comes from the makers of the SAT Suite of Assessments, so you can answer official questions in a casual setting, earn badges, and build your streak. For more information, visit **qotd.collegeboard.org**.

# Paper-Based Practice Tests

College Board provides downloadable paper versions of practice tests for those students who need to test with paper-based accommodations on test day. Since the PDF versions of our practice tests are nonadaptive, they're recommended only for students who will test with paper-based accommodations on test day. Using these practice materials does not mean you've been approved to test with a particular accommodation. These paper versions of the tests are longer and require more questions to assess your knowledge and skills. To practice on paper, you'll need to ask your counselor to help you obtain the test or print these downloadable versions of the practice test at **sat.org/digital-practice**.

# The Official SAT Study Guide

For additional tips on using practice tests effectively, check out an updated version of **The Official SAT Study Guide**™ from the College Board bookstore or wherever you find test prep materials. While you can take practice tests for free in Bluebook, taking a printed practice test in the study guide is another strategy to help you build your endurance and strengthen your understanding of the questions on the test.

# What the Reading and Writing Section Is Like

The Reading and Writing section of the PSAT 8/9 is designed to measure your success with building critical college and career readiness in literacy. In this section, you'll answer multiple-choice questions requiring you to read, comprehend, and use information and ideas in texts; analyze the craft and structure of texts; revise texts to improve the rhetorical expression of ideas; and edit texts to follow core conventions of Standard English.

Passages in this section, which serve as the basis for answering test questions, represent the subject areas of literature, history/social studies, the humanities, and science. There is a single question per passage.

Select questions in this section are accompanied by an informational graphic.

## Reading and Writing Section Overview

Test length:

- 1st module: 25 operational questions and 2 pretest questions
- 2nd module: 25 operational questions and 2 pretest questions

**Total: 54 questions**

Time per module:

- 1st module: 32 minutes
- 2nd module: 32 minutes

**Total: 64 minutes**
**(1.19 minutes per question)**

Questions in the Reading and Writing section represent 1 of 4 content domains, shown in the table that follows. To help you budget your time, questions that test similar skills and knowledge are grouped together in Bluebook and then arranged from easiest to hardest. Pretest questions don't count toward your score.

**READING AND WRITING SECTION CONTENT DOMAINS AND QUESTION DISTRIBUTION**

| Content Domain | Domain Description | Skill/Knowledge Testing Points | Question Distribution |
|---|---|---|---|
| **Craft and Structure** | Measures the comprehension, vocabulary, analysis, synthesis, and reasoning skills and knowledge needed to understand and use high-utility words and phrases in context, evaluate texts rhetorically, and make connections between topically related texts | Words in Context; Text Structure and Purpose; Cross-Text Connections | 13–15 questions |
| **Information and Ideas** | Measures comprehension, analysis, and reasoning skills and knowledge and the ability to locate, interpret, evaluate, and integrate information and ideas from texts and informational graphics (tables, bar graphs, and line graphs) | Central Ideas and Details; Command of Evidence (Textual, Quantitative); Inferences | 12–14 questions |
| **Standard English Conventions** | Measures the ability to edit texts to conform to core conventions of Standard English sentence structure, usage, and punctuation | Boundaries; Form, Structure, and Sense | 11–15 questions |
| **Expression of Ideas** | Measures the ability to revise texts to improve the effectiveness of written expression and to meet specific rhetorical goals | Rhetorical Synthesis; Transitions | 8–12 questions |

These specifications are for the adaptive version of the digital test, which most students will take. Students approved for certain testing accommodations—such as a human reader, raised line drawings, or paper test forms—will test using a nonadaptive version of the digital PSAT 8/9. This nonadaptive version has a slightly higher number of test questions in each module to account for the fact that the test is not adaptive. Practice for this nonadaptive version of the test is also available in Bluebook. You can learn more about nonadaptive test specifications in Appendix E of the Assessment Framework for the Digital SAT Suite.

# What the Math Section Is Like

The Math section of the PSAT 8/9 is designed to measure your success with building critical college and career readiness knowledge and skills in math. It focuses on key elements of algebra, advanced math, problem-solving and data analysis, and geometry. Over the course of the Math section, you'll answer multiple-choice and student-produced response questions that measure your fluency with, understanding of, and ability to apply the math concepts, skills, and practices that are most essential.

Approximately 30% of math questions are set in context. These in-context "word" questions require you to consider a science, social studies, or real-world scenario and apply your math skills and knowledge, along with an understanding of the context, to determine the answer to each.

Select questions in this section are accompanied by an informational graphic.

## Math Section Overview

Test length:

- 1st module: 20 operational questions and 2 pretest questions
- 2nd module: 20 operational questions and 2 pretest questions

**Total: 44 questions**

Time per module:

- 1st module: 35 minutes
- 2nd module: 35 minutes

**Total: 70 minutes**
**(1.59 minutes per question)**

Questions from all 4 content domains appear in each test module. Across each module, questions are arranged from easiest to hardest, allowing you to have the best opportunity to demonstrate what you know and can do. Pretest questions don't count toward your score.

**MATH SECTION CONTENT DOMAINS AND QUESTION DISTRIBUTION**

| Content Domain | Domain Description | Skill/Knowledge Testing Points | Question Distribution |
|---|---|---|---|
| **Algebra** | Measures the ability to analyze, fluently solve, and create linear equations and inequalities as well as analyze and fluently solve equations and systems of equations using multiple techniques | Linear equations in 1 variable; Linear equations in 2 variables; Linear functions; Systems of 2 linear equations in 2 variables; Linear inequalities in 1 or 2 variables | 16–18 questions |
| **Advanced Math** | Measures skills and knowledge central for progression to more advanced math courses, including demonstrating an understanding of absolute value, quadratic, exponential, polynomial, rational, radical, and other nonlinear equations | Equivalent expressions; Nonlinear equations in 1 variable and systems of equations in 2 variables; Nonlinear functions | 7–9 questions |
| **Problem-Solving and Data Analysis** | Measures the ability to apply quantitative reasoning about ratios, rates, and proportional relationships; understand and apply unit rate; and analyze and interpret 1- and 2-variable data | Ratios, rates, proportional relationships, and units; Percentages; 1-variable data: distributions and measures of center and spread; 2-variable data: models and scatterplots; Probability and conditional probability | 9–11 questions |
| **Geometry** | Measures the ability to solve problems that focus on area and volume; lines, angles, triangles | Area and volume; Lines, angles, and triangles, including right triangles | 4–6 questions |

These specifications are for the adaptive version of the digital test, which most students will take. Students approved for certain testing accommodations—such as a human reader, raised line drawings, or paper test forms—will test using a nonadaptive version of the digital PSAT 8/9. This nonadaptive version has a slightly higher number of test questions in each module to account for the fact that the test is not adaptive. Practice for this nonadaptive version of the test is also available in Bluebook. You can learn more about nonadaptive test specifications in Appendix E of the Assessment Framework for the Digital SAT Suite.

# Information You'll Need on Test Day for Digital Testing

Be prepared for digital testing by making sure you bring only what you need for the test. You'll have your testing device, but won't be able to use or access any other personal electronic devices, such as a mobile phone or wearable technology, during the test. Review the other important guidelines in this section to make sure you understand the policies that cover your PSAT 8/9 testing experience.

This section also includes information about test day technical support.

## Test Day Items

The following items are required for taking the PSAT 8/9:

- A fully charged, acceptable testing device with Bluebook already downloaded and exam setup complete.
- A pen or pencil for scratch work.
- A valid photo ID for check-in if testing as an Away Student. (Some states may not allow Away Students.)

Though not required, consider bringing:

- Snacks and drinks (which must be under your desk during testing).
- An acceptable calculator for the Math section (if you prefer using a handheld calculator to using the embedded Desmos calculator in Bluebook). Please see **PSAT 8/9 Calculator Policy** for more information.
- Extra batteries, a power cord, and backup calculator.

For more information about what to bring on test day, see the What to Bring on Test Day webpage.

## Test Day Steps

This section summarizes important guidelines for digital testing. See Section 1 of the PSAT 8/9 Testing Rules to make sure you cover all the steps to successfully prepare to take the PSAT 8/9.

- If you are allowed to bring your own or a school-issued device, plan ahead and bring equipment that's in good working order with enough battery power to last for about 3 hours. Your testing device must be able to connect to new Wi-Fi networks, and you may need to update your operating system to support the digital test. Testing staff might not have extra batteries or calculators.
- If you are allowed to bring your own device, you need to download the Bluebook app from **bluebook.app.collegeboard.org**.
- If you're testing with extended time, bring a power cord; your testing site should provide an outlet for recharging if needed.
- During exam setup, which will take place as either part of your school's student readiness check or right before the test, you'll be required to review and agree to the Testing Rules. As part of exam setup, you'll also have the option to provide additional information about yourself. You may also have the opportunity to provide a mobile number to access the BigFuture School mobile application to jump start your college and career planning with easy access to your scores and career insights.
- On test day, you'll follow instructions to connect to Wi-Fi, complete exam check-in on your testing device, and type a brief statement saying that you agree to follow all rules for the exam.

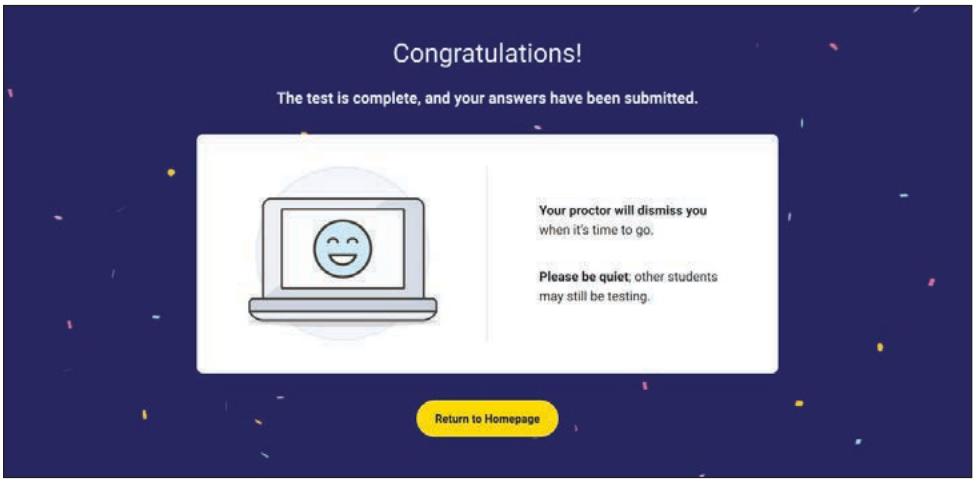
- During testing:
  - Head coverings worn for medical or religious reasons are permitted during testing as long as they don't obstruct testing staff's ability to view your eyes and ears. You're not permitted to wear other head coverings while testing; if you are wearing one, store it under your desk. If you're wearing a hooded shirt in the testing room, your hood must stay down during testing.
  - Store any snacks or drinks you bring under your desk. You may only eat snacks during breaks. The testing staff will tell you where you can go to have your snack.
  - You must remain in the testing site for the duration of the test. If you leave before you're dismissed, your scores are subject to cancellation.
  - Keep your laptop open or your tablet uncovered and on during the entire duration of testing. Closing your laptop lid or covering your device may result in a loss of your responses.

# Submitting Your Answers

Do not close the lid to your laptop, turn off your tablet screen, close Bluebook, or shut down your device until testing staff have confirmed that your tests have been submitted and you are officially dismissed from testing.

In the event of an internet disruption at the end of the test, or another issue that keeps you from submitting your answers, you'll need to follow instructions provided by your school to complete submission. This may include waiting until the internet is back online to leave the testing room, or returning later with your testing device once the internet service resumes.

If answers aren't received by the end of the submission period, College Board may cancel your scores or report them for guidance purposes only.




**Do not close the lid of your laptop, turn off your tablet screen, close Bluebook, or shut down your device until testing staff confirm that your answers have been submitted.**

# After the Test

Once you've taken the PSAT 8/9, the next step is to access your scores, understand what they mean, and track your progress. Use the information in this section to help you make the most of your scores. You can also explore additional College Board tools to help you plan for the future.

## How the PSAT 8/9 Is Scored

The SAT Suite uses a multistage adaptive test design and item response theory (IRT) methodology to precisely measure students' knowledge and skills with fewer questions in less time. Every test includes a standardized set of question types and measures the same content domains, so all students have equitable opportunity to demonstrate their strengths. Your scores depend on several factors, including whether you answer questions right or wrong, the difficulty level of the questions, and the probability that you might be guessing. For most students, it is better to guess than leave a question blank, especially if you can eliminate one or two wrong answers first. To learn more about how assessments in the SAT Suite adapt to your performance, watch our **What is Digital SAT Adaptive Testing?** video.

**TEST SCORING**

| PSAT 8/9 Score Reported | Details | Score Range |
|---|---|---|
| **Section Scores (2)** | ▪ Reading and Writing (RW)<br>▪ Math (M) | ▪ 120–720<br>▪ 120–720 |
| **Total Score** | Sum of the 2 section scores | 240–1440 |

## Retesting

If you encounter an issue on test day that makes you want to consider canceling your score, you may be able to work with your school to retest later in the testing window. If you retest, you must take the entire test again. You cannot retest only one section or part of an assessment. (For more information on retesting, please see Section 6 of the PSAT 8/9 Testing Rules at **cb.org/psat89-rules**.)

Contact your school's test coordinator immediately to report any issues you encountered on test day.

## BigFuture School

### The Power to Plan for Your Future the Moment You Get Your PSAT 8/9 Scores

BigFuture School allows students to take control of their college and career planning—starting with easy access to their scores and career insights. When you take the PSAT 8/9, you may have an opportunity to access BigFuture School and:

- View your PSAT 8/9 scores and Career Insights Snapshot
- Explore customized messages about planning for career and college, and paying for college
- Use interactive career tools like Career Quiz and Career Explorer to combine your interests, skills, and strengths to discover what future pathways are most intriguing to you

All of this is available to you on the BigFuture School mobile application if you are 13 and older, test in the U.S., and decide to download and authenticate your personalized access to the app. If you share your mobile number with us when you take the test, we'll text you a link to download the app, send you a code you'll use to sign in, and let you know when your scores are ready after you complete the test. No passwords are required and we won't use your phone number for any other reason.

Read more about the BigFuture School mobile application at **privacy.collegeboard.org/program-specific-privacy-policies/bigfuture-school-app-privacy-policy**.

## BigFuture School is Optional

Your participation in BigFuture School is completely voluntary, and you can opt out at any time.

**To opt out of BigFuture School text messages:**

- Text **STOP** to any text we send you about BigFuture School.
- Call customer service at 866-756-7346.
- For additional help, text **HELP** to any text we send you about BigFuture School or contact us at **cb.org/contact**.

You may stop using and delete the BigFuture School mobile application at any time.

PSAT 8/9 scores will be available in the BigFuture School mobile app. Please visit **sat.org/scores** for score release dates.

Read more about BigFuture School at **bigfutureschool.org**.

# Getting Your Scores

If you provided your mobile number during exam setup, you will receive a text message alerting you when your scores are available to view in the BigFuture School mobile app. In addition, an official student score report called "Your Score Report" is provided for every PSAT 8/9 test taker. You can review this score report with educators at your school. Check with your counselor if you would like to obtain a copy of your score report. As always, if you are age 13 and older, you may use a personal College Board student account to view additional insights online. Visit **sat.org/scores** for more information.

For a full breakdown of your scores, including how to get them, what to do with them, and a case study that shows you a sample score report and walks you through each section, check out **PSAT 8/9: Understanding Scores for Students and Families**.

# Explore Career Options

For students in the U.S., your score report will show Career Insights Snapshot—a list of growing careers in your state that connects you to your math and reading and writing skills based on your SAT Suite performance. Career Insights Snapshot provides career examples, not recommendations, that can stimulate your thinking, broaden your awareness of career options, and encourage deeper career exploration beyond the score report. You can view your Career Insights Snapshot in the BigFuture School mobile app to start your career exploration right on your phone. You can also visit **bigfuture.org** to discover more careers that interest you.

**PRO TIP:** After reviewing the career information on your score report, take the free BigFuture Career Quiz in less than 10 minutes to get a list of more potential careers that match your interests. Access the quiz in the BigFuture School mobile app or visit **bigfuture.org/careerquiz**.

# PSAT 8/9 Testing Rules

### IMPORTANT NOTE REGARDING TESTING RULES

You must review and agree to the PSAT 8/9 Testing Rules in Bluebook before or on test day. Please read these rules carefully in advance at **cb.org/psat89-rules**.