Using Your PSAT/NMSQT® Scores to Increase College Readiness

PSAT/NMSQT®

CollegeBoard / NATIONAL MERIT SCHOLARSHIP CORPORATION

Instruction for Using This Lesson

More than ever before, the PSAT/NMSQT® supports students on their path to college readiness.

Like all of the assessments in the SAT® Suite, the PSAT/NMQT offers scores and reports that provide insightful information about individual student performance on the assessment, including a predicted SAT score and their progress toward the college readiness benchmarks.

The purpose of this lesson is to support educators as they review PSAT/NMSQT scores and reports with students.

- The lesson can be used with your students in a **computer lab**, leading them through the **online reports** and resources available to students when they log in to their College Board account.
- The lesson also takes the students through their **paper score report** step by step, explaining each section of the report and the scores students receive.
- In addition, this lesson shares **college planning resources** with students to help them investigate colleges, majors, and their own interests on the path to college readiness.

Instruction for Using This Lesson

- The lesson is divided into sections,
  - **Section one:** the online reporting portal
  - **Section two:** the paper score report
  - **Section three:** additional college planning resources
- Some information in each of these sections is repeated to allow the flexibility to review only the online portion or only the paper score report.
- Use this table to tailor the lesson as needed:

Lesson includes:	Use slides:	Reduce notes for slides:	Approximate Time Required
Both online reporting portal and paper score report	3–36	20 (repeats notes for slide 10 and 11) 21 (repeats notes for slide 13) 22 (repeats notes for slide 11) 25 (repeats notes for slide 15)	70 minutes
Online reporting portal only	3–18, 26–36	None	40 minutes
Paper score report only	1–4, 19–36	None	25 minutes

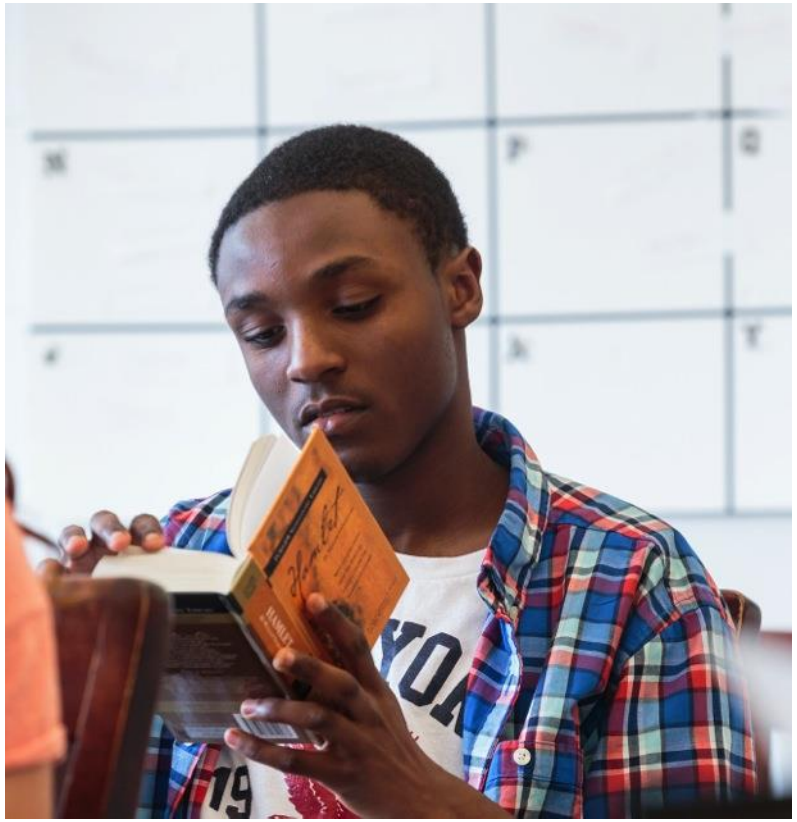
Using Your PSAT/NMSQT® Scores to Increase College Readiness



PSAT/NMSQT®

CollegeBoard / NATIONAL MERIT SCHOLARSHIP CORPORATION

Get to Know the PSAT/NMSQT®



- The PSAT/NMSQT is highly relevant to your future success because it focuses on the skills and knowledge at the heart of your education. It measures:
  - What you learn in high school
  - What you need to succeed in college
- The PSAT/NMSQT measures reading, writing and language, and math skills developed over many years.
- The PSAT/NMSQT does not ask for facts from literature, history, or science, or for recall of math formulas, because it measures your reasoning and critical thinking skills.
- You don’t have to discover secret tricks or cram the night before.
- There is no penalty for guessing.
- The test length is 2 hours, 45 minutes.

What Are the Benefits of Taking the PSAT/NMSQT®?



- Prepare for the SAT®
- Get free, personalized Official SAT Practice on Khan Academy®
- Start getting ready for college with college and career planning tools
- Enter the National Merit® Scholarship Program
- See which AP® courses for which you might be ready
- Get admission and financial aid information from colleges

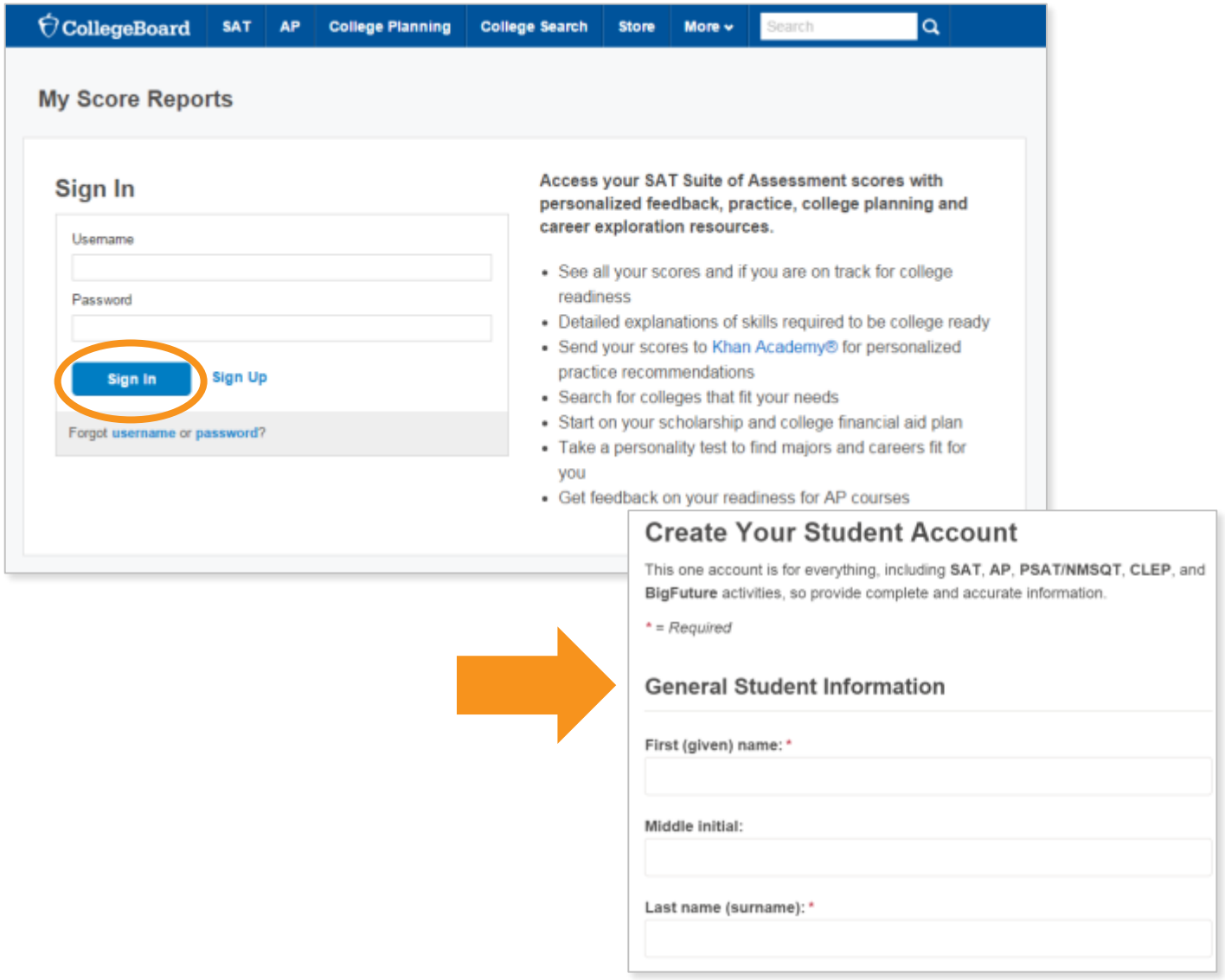
How Do I Access My PSAT/NMSQT® Scores and Reports?

1. Review your online reports.
2. Review your paper score report.



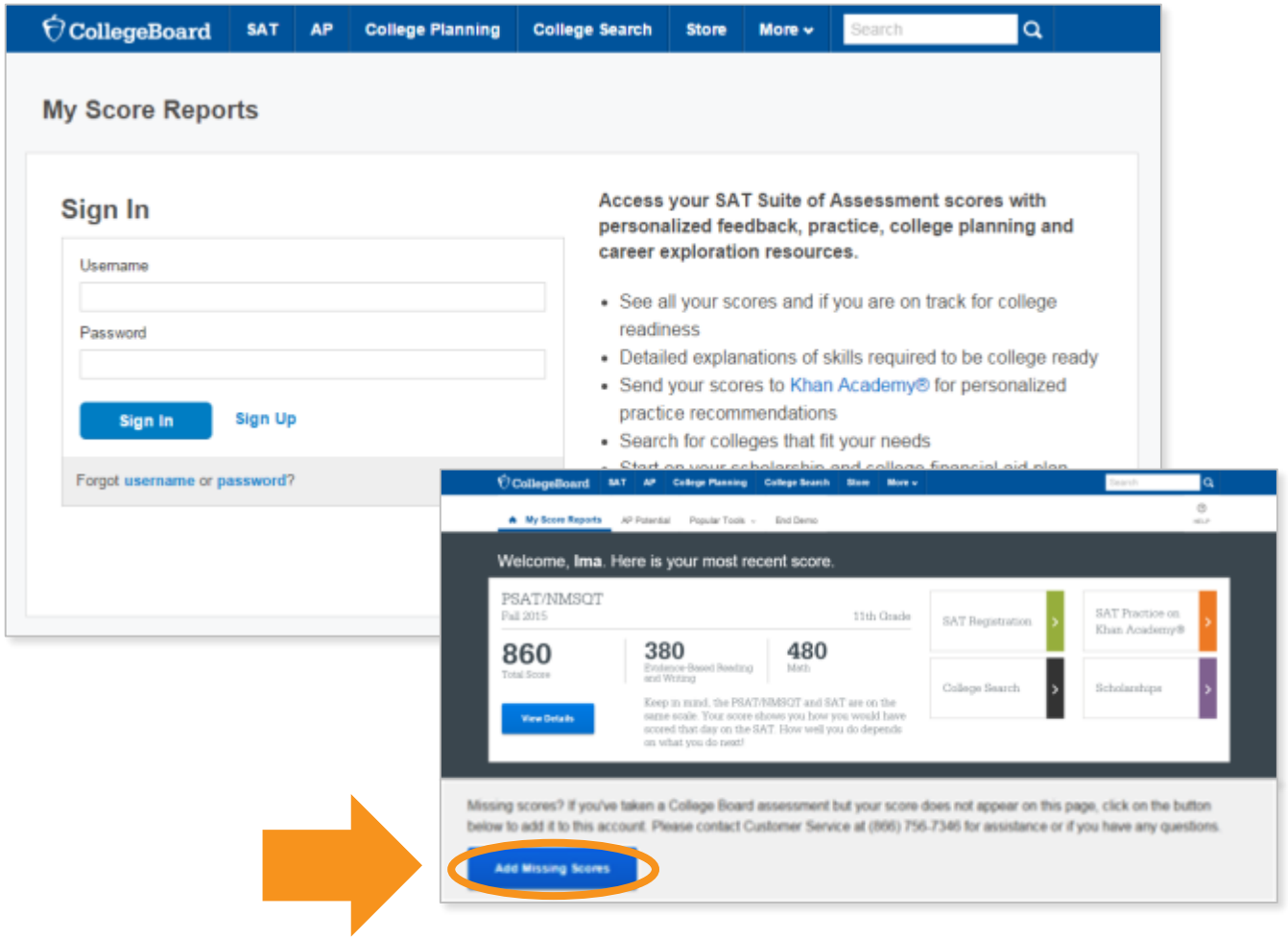
How Do I Access My Online PSAT/NMSQT® Scores and Reports?

Log in to an existing College Board account or create a new one at studentscores.collegeboard.org.

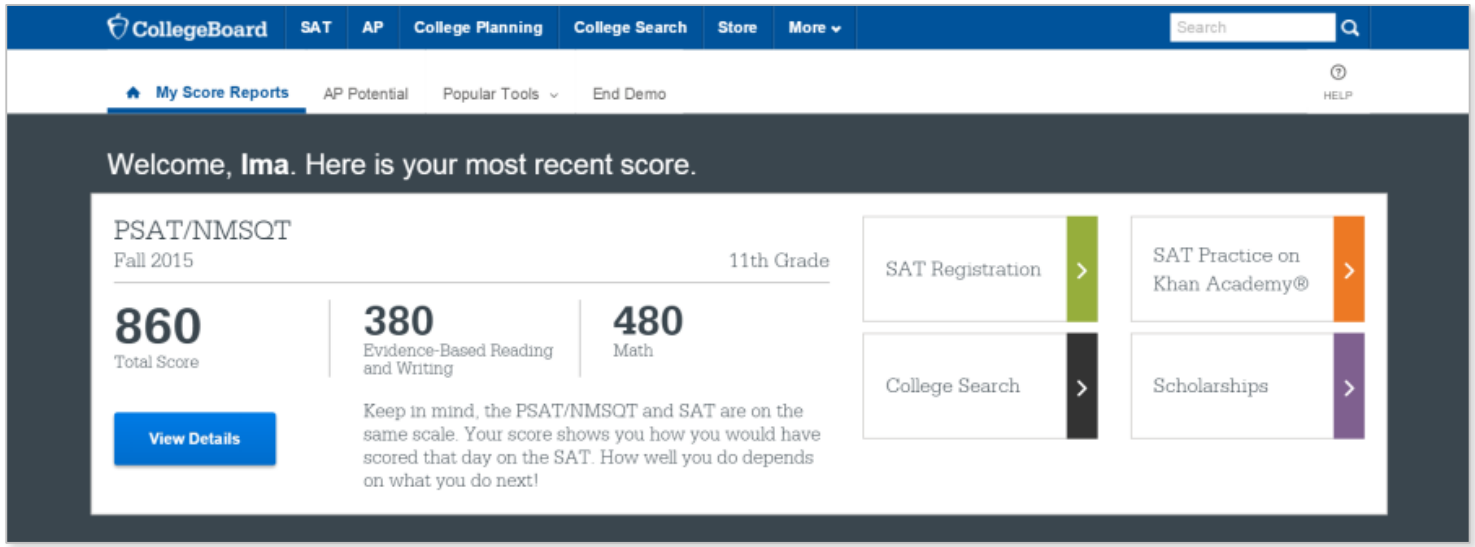


How Do I Access My Online PSAT/NMSQT® Scores and Reports? *(cont.)*

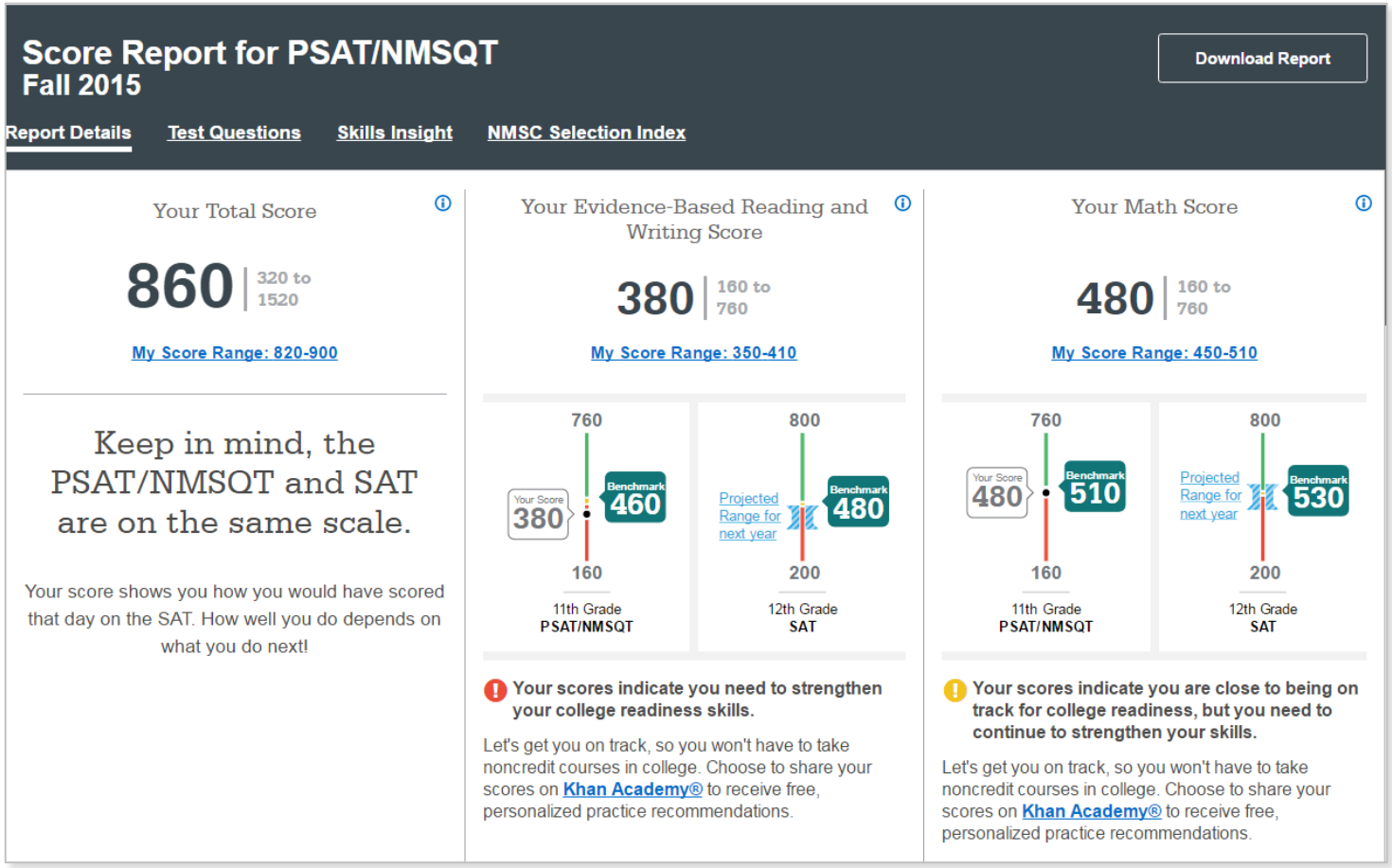
1. Log in to your account.
2. Select PSAT/NMSQT Scores.
   OR
3. Use “Missing Scores” to locate scores.



What Will I Learn About My Scores?

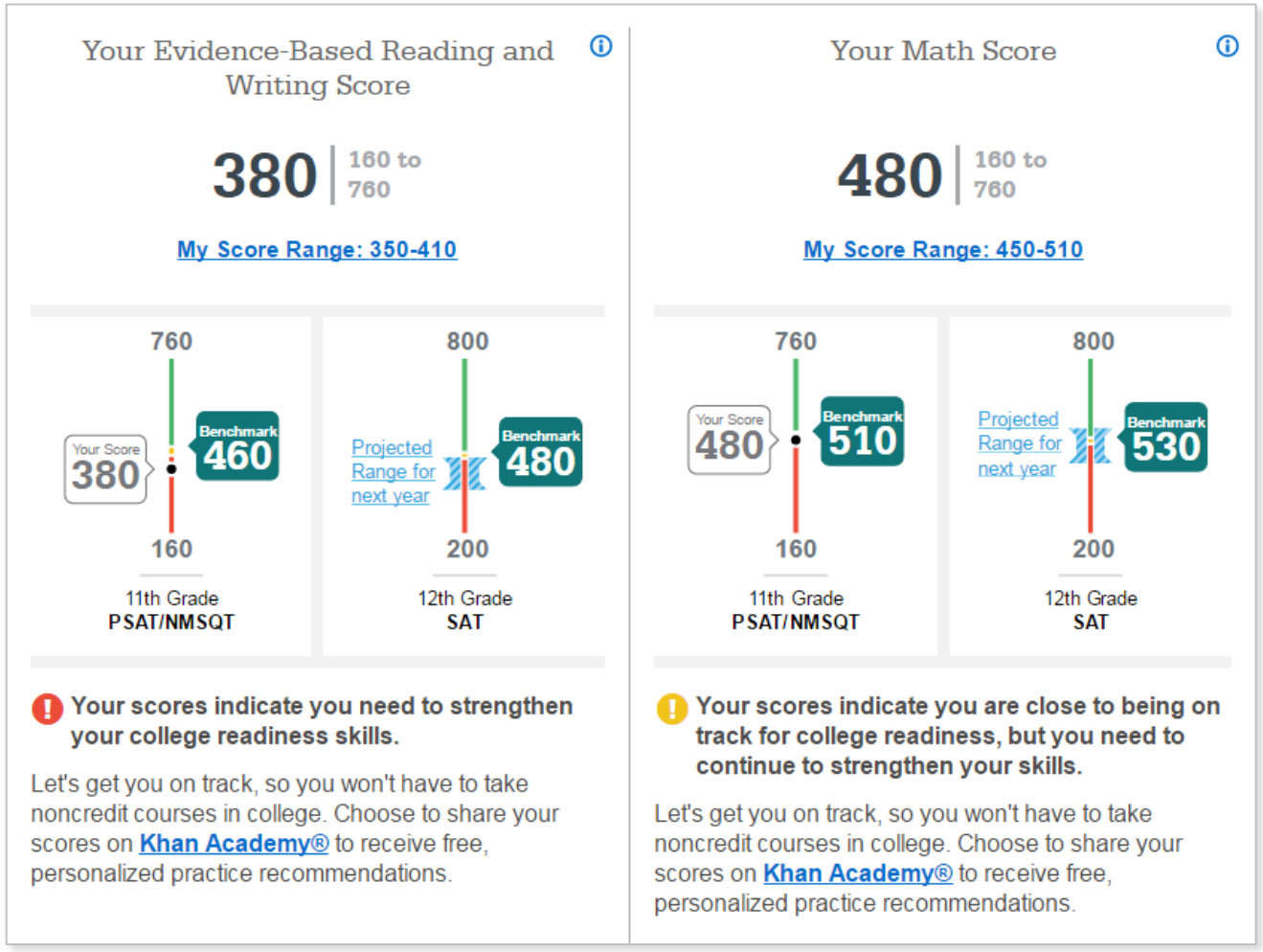


How Do I See My Detailed Scores?



How Will I Do on the SAT®?

The predicted SAT score is an initial projection based on current SAT data and concordance.



How Did My Score Measure Against the Benchmarks?

Section, test, and subscores all report scores in performance zones that indicate whether you are on track for meeting the college readiness benchmarks on the SAT®.

Section scores

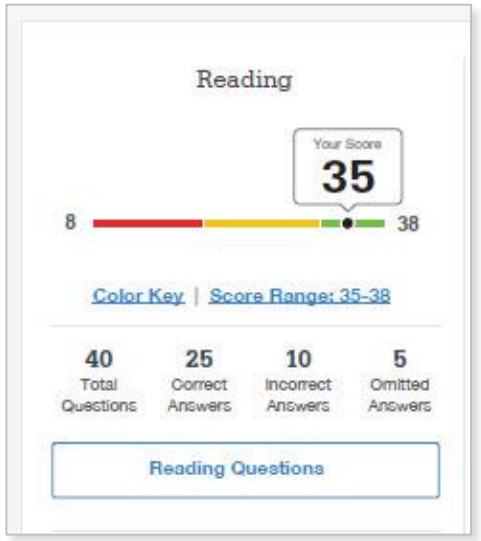
Need to Strengthen Skills = below grade-level benchmark by more than one year

Approaching Benchmark = below grade-level benchmark by one year or less

Meets or Exceeds Benchmark = at or above grade-level benchmark

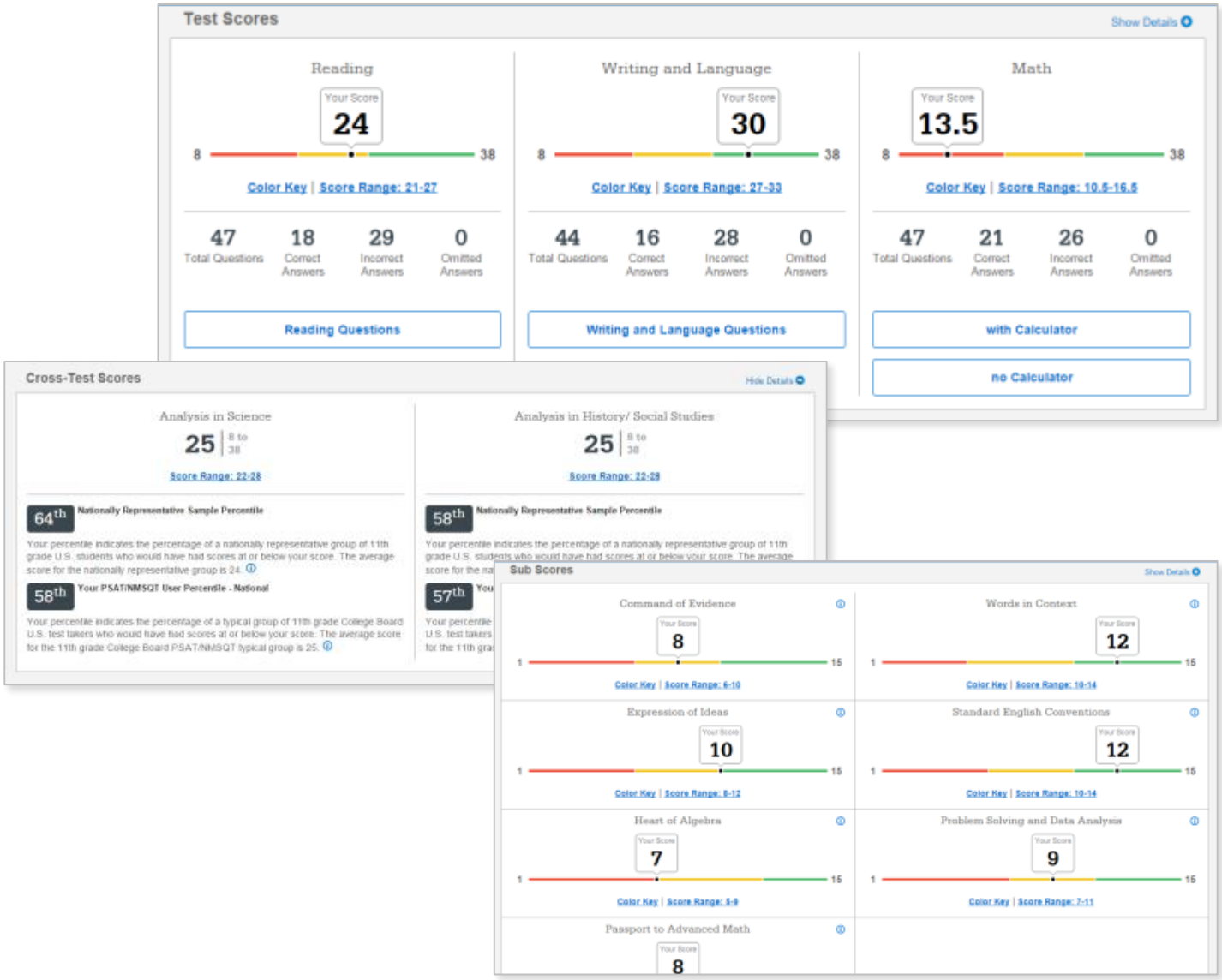
Test scores and subscores

Red, yellow, and green ranges reflect areas of strengths and weaknesses compared to the typical performance of students



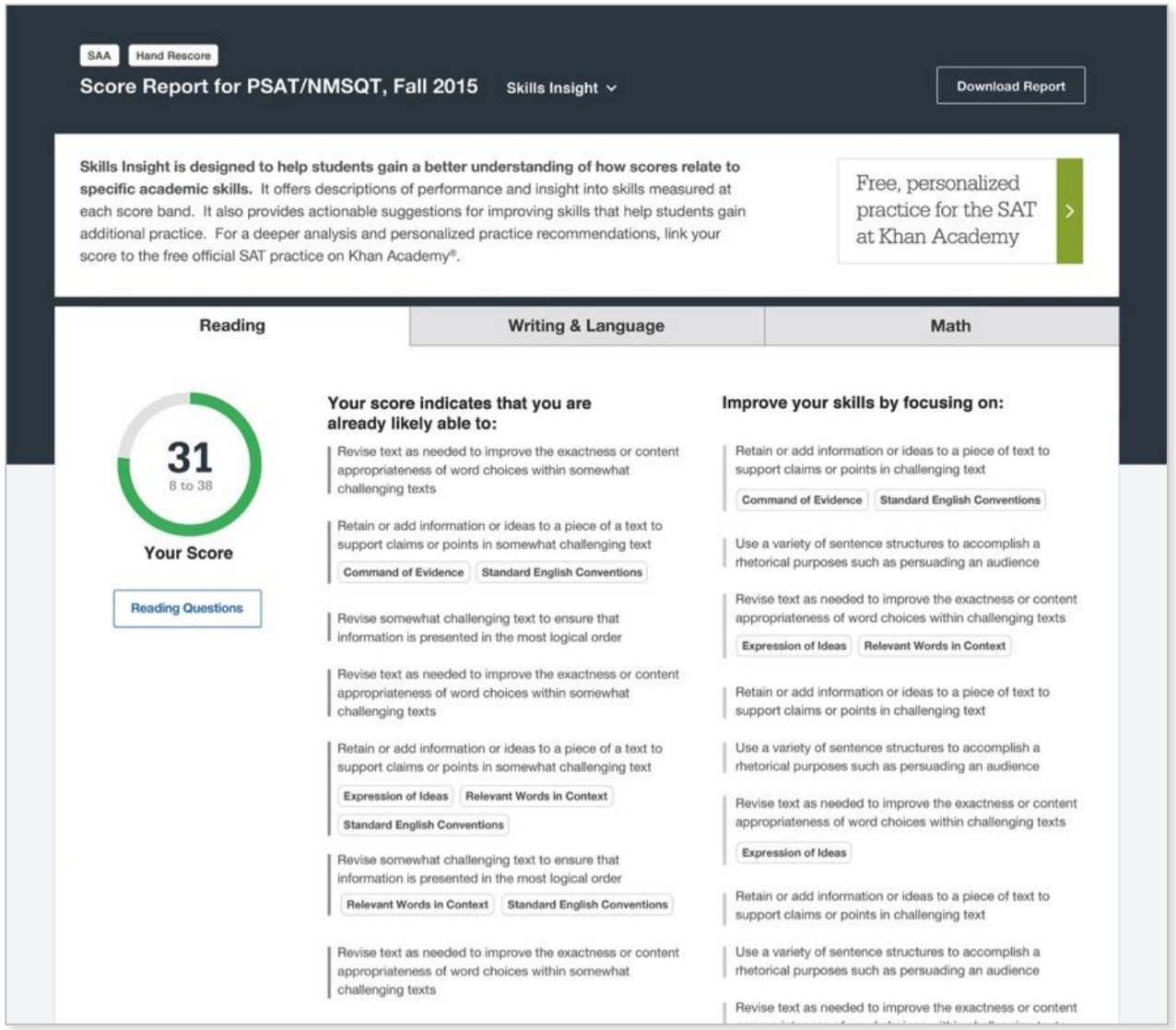
What Do My Scores Tell Me?

Test scores, cross-test scores, and subscores give students insightful information about their strengths and areas for improvement.



How Can I Improve My Academic Skills?

Skills Insight™ informs you about what you are already likely able to do, and how you can improve your skills.

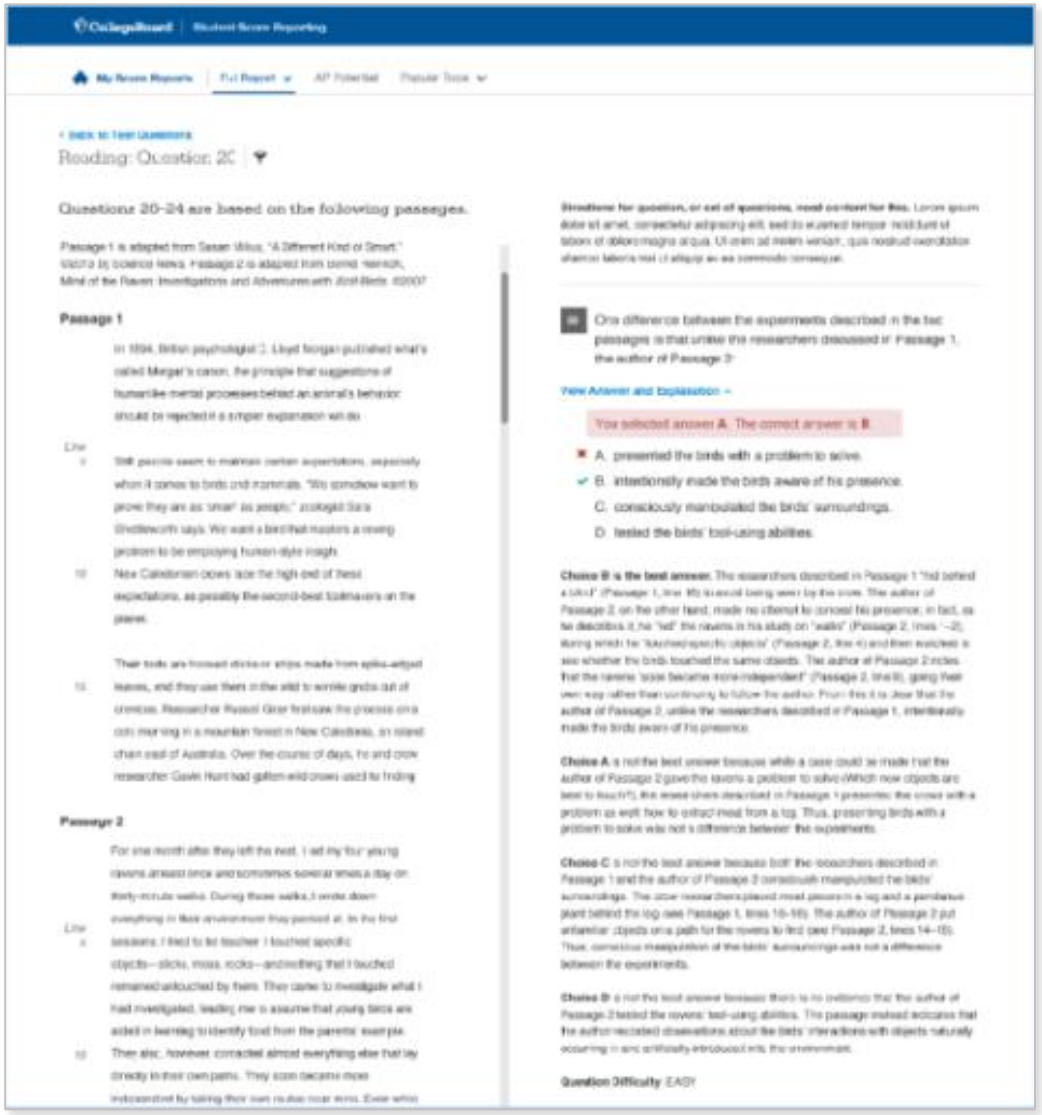


What Can I Learn from My Answers?

See the actual questions, answer choices, and the answer selected.

Look at the online score report and consider the following:

- Identify the questions answered incorrectly.
- Find the correct answer and read the answer explanation.
- Explain why the error was made.
- Ask questions about answer explanations that are not clear.

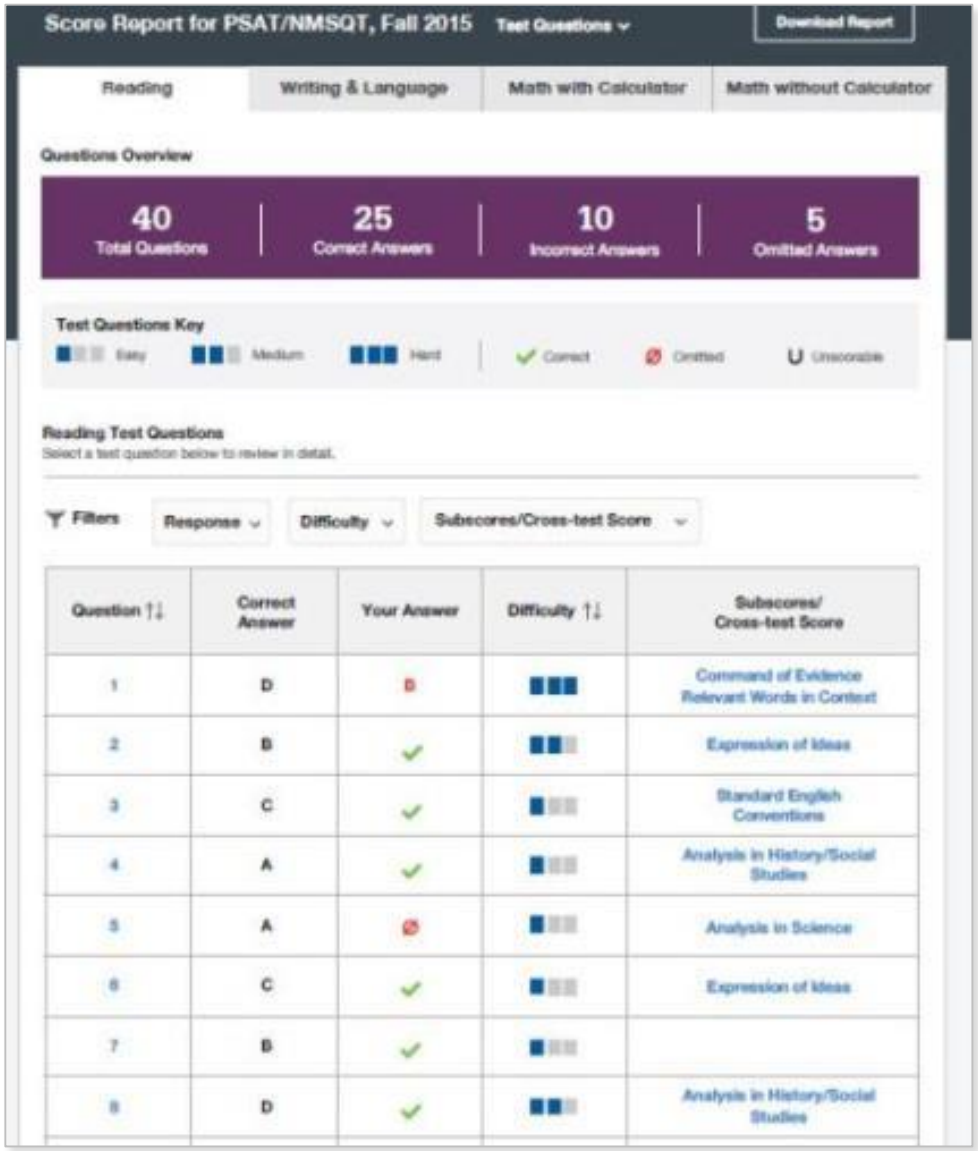


What Can I Learn from My Answers?
(cont.)

Check the level of difficulty of each question and the related subscores and cross-test scores.

Look at the types of questions answered incorrectly and skipped and consider the following:

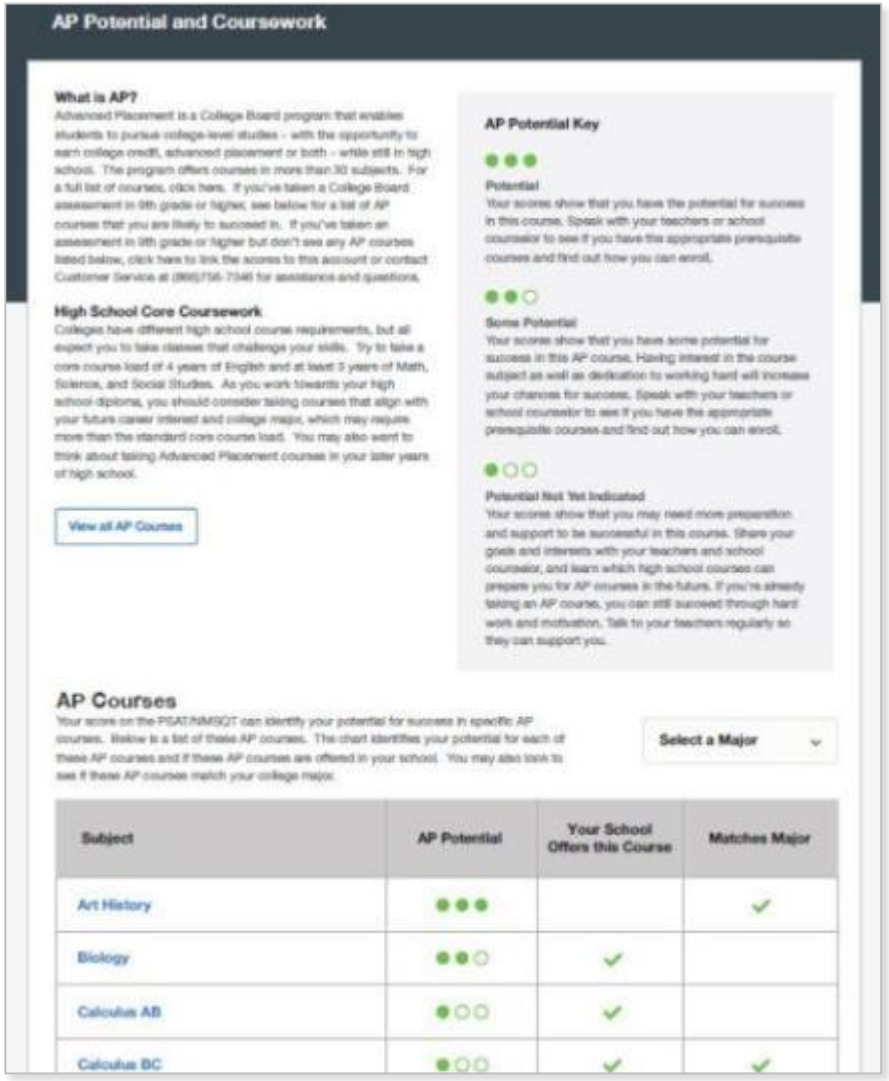
- Identify the level of difficulty. How many questions did I miss at each level?
- Was I more likely to skip questions associated with any subscore or cross-test score?
- What inferences can I make about areas for improvement based on the types of questions I missed and skipped?



What Is My AP Potential™?

AP Potential uses scores from the PSAT/NMSQT® to provide predictions for 21 AP® Exams.

- College Board research shows that students who score a 3 or higher on an AP Exam typically experience greater academic success in college and are more likely to earn a college degree on time than non-AP students.

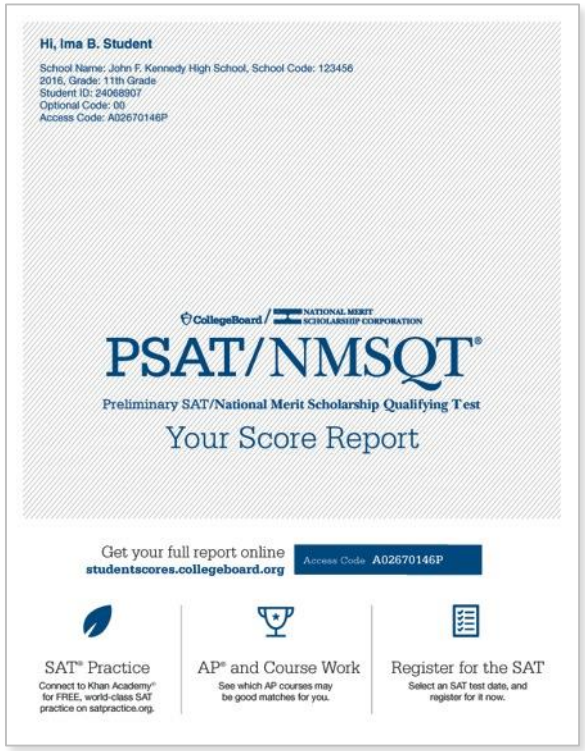




Understanding My Paper Score Report

What Are My Scores?

Scores for the assessments in the SAT® Suite are vertically equated.



Hi, Ima B. Student

School Name: John F. Kennedy High School, School Code: 123456
2016, Grade: 11th Grade
Student ID: 24068907
Optional Code: 00
Access Code: A02670146P

CollegeBoard / National Merit Scholarship Corporation

PSAT/NMSQT®

Preliminary SAT/National Merit Scholarship Qualifying Test

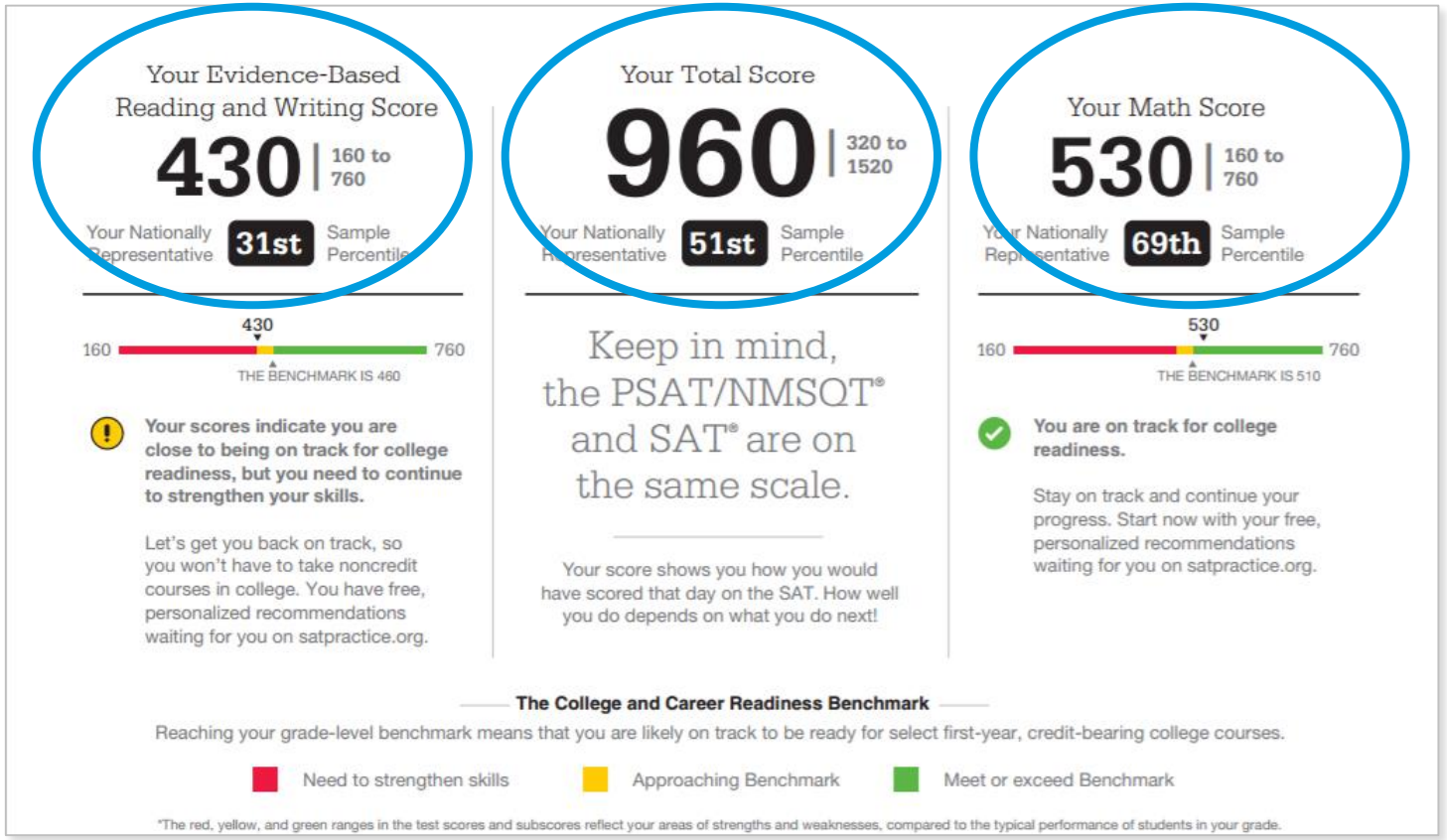
Your Score Report

Get your full report online
studentscores.collegeboard.org
Access Code A02670146P

SAT® Practice
Connect to Khan Academy® for FREE, world-class SAT practice on satpractice.org.

AP® and Course Work
See which AP courses may be good matches for you.

Register for the SAT
Select an SAT test date, and register for it now.



Your Evidence-Based Reading and Writing Score

430 | 160 to 760

Your Nationally Representative 31st Sample Percentile

430
160 760
THE BENCHMARK IS 460

Your scores indicate you are close to being on track for college readiness, but you need to continue to strengthen your skills.

Let's get you back on track, so you won't have to take noncredit courses in college. You have free, personalized recommendations waiting for you on satpractice.org.

Your Total Score

960 | 320 to 1520

Your Nationally Representative 51st Sample Percentile

Keep in mind, the PSAT/NMSQT® and SAT® are on the same scale.

Your score shows you how you would have scored that day on the SAT. How well you do depends on what you do next!

Your Math Score

530 | 160 to 760

Your Nationally Representative 69th Sample Percentile

530
160 760
THE BENCHMARK IS 510

You are on track for college readiness.

Stay on track and continue your progress. Start now with your free, personalized recommendations waiting for you on satpractice.org.

The College and Career Readiness Benchmark

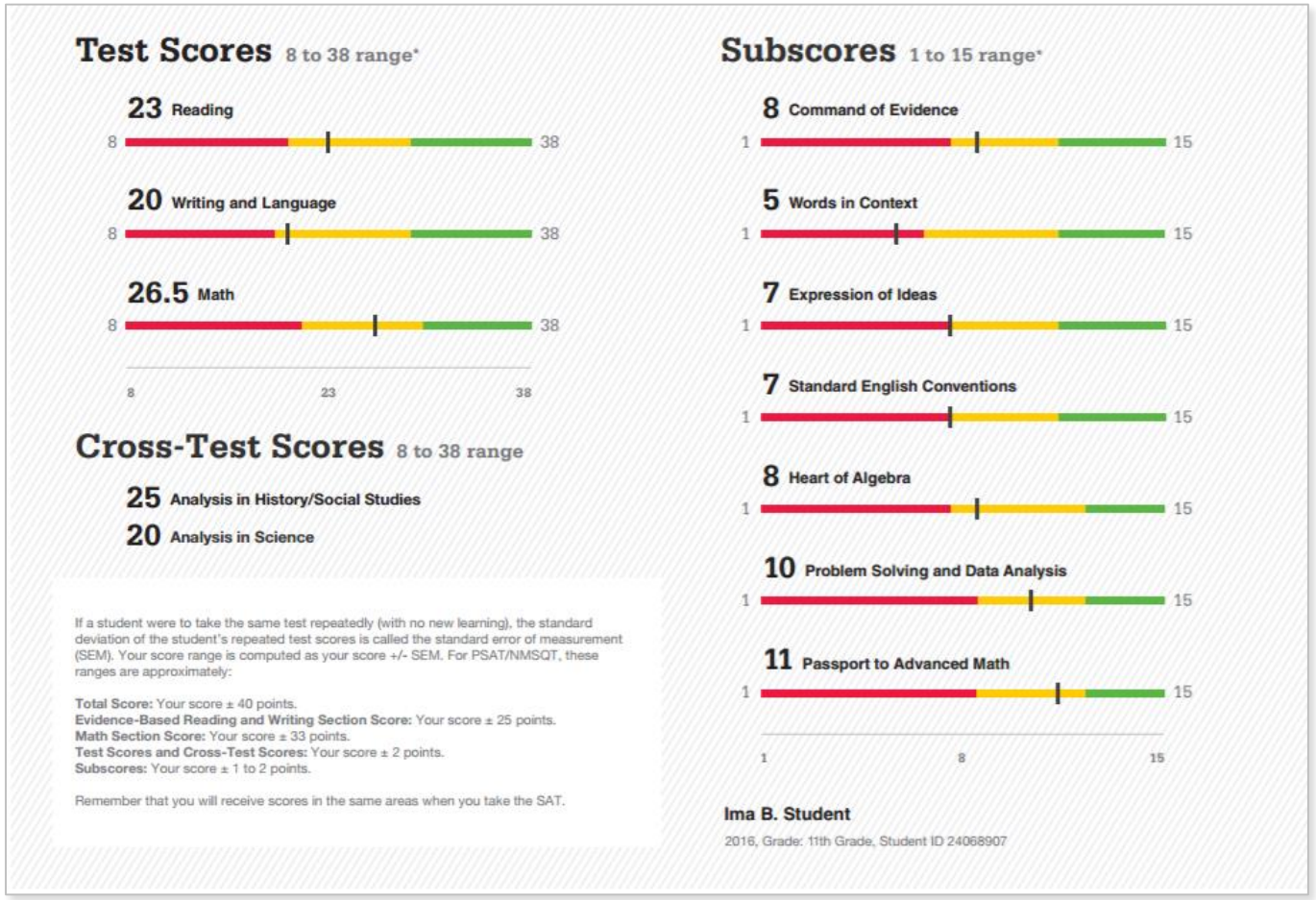
Reaching your grade-level benchmark means that you are likely on track to be ready for select first-year, credit-bearing college courses.

Need to strengthen skills | Approaching Benchmark | Meet or exceed Benchmark

*The red, yellow, and green ranges in the test scores and subscores reflect your areas of strengths and weaknesses, compared to the typical performance of students in your grade.

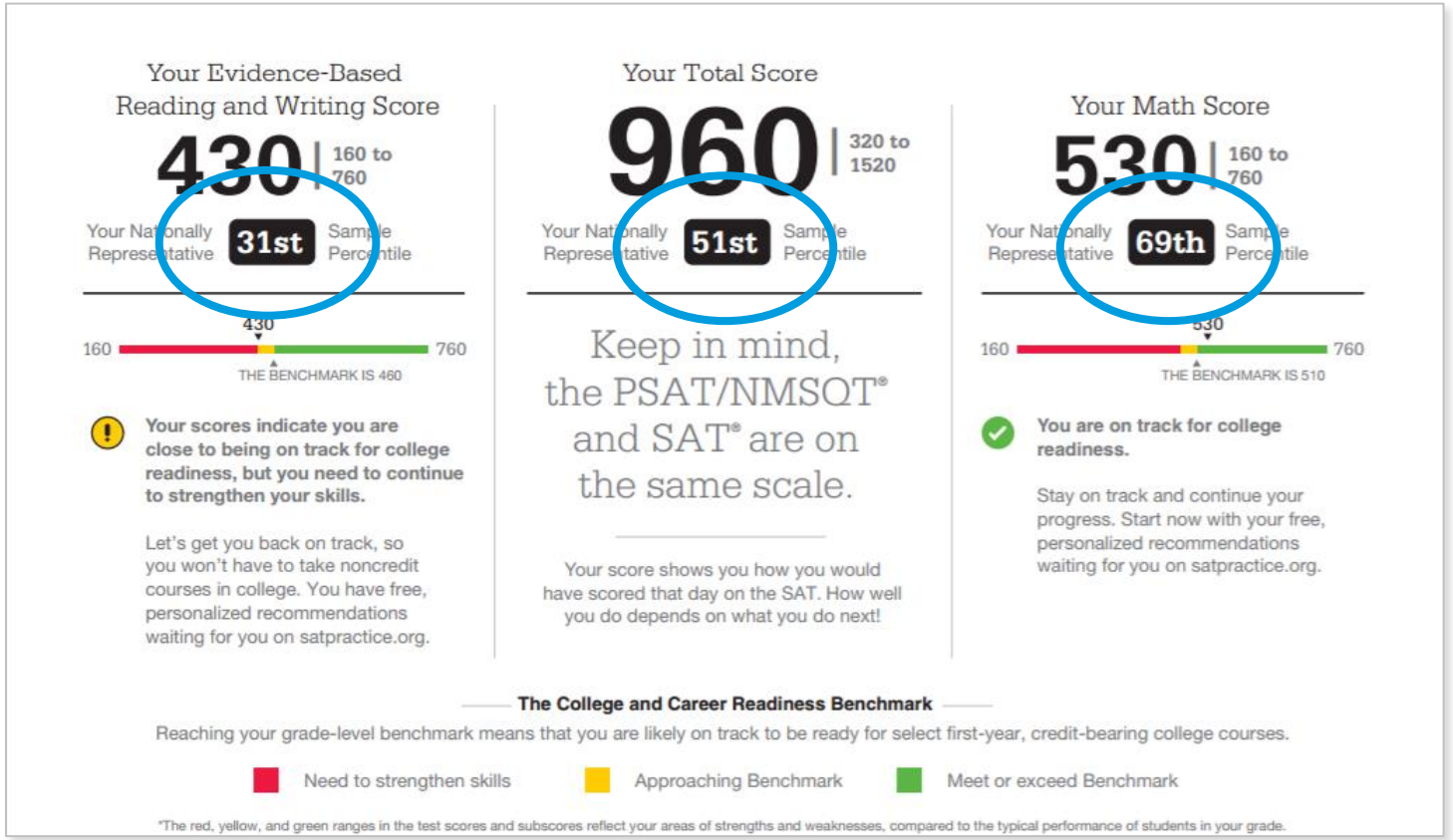
What Are My Scores? *(cont.)*

Test scores, cross-test scores, and subscores give students insightful information about their strengths and areas for improvement.



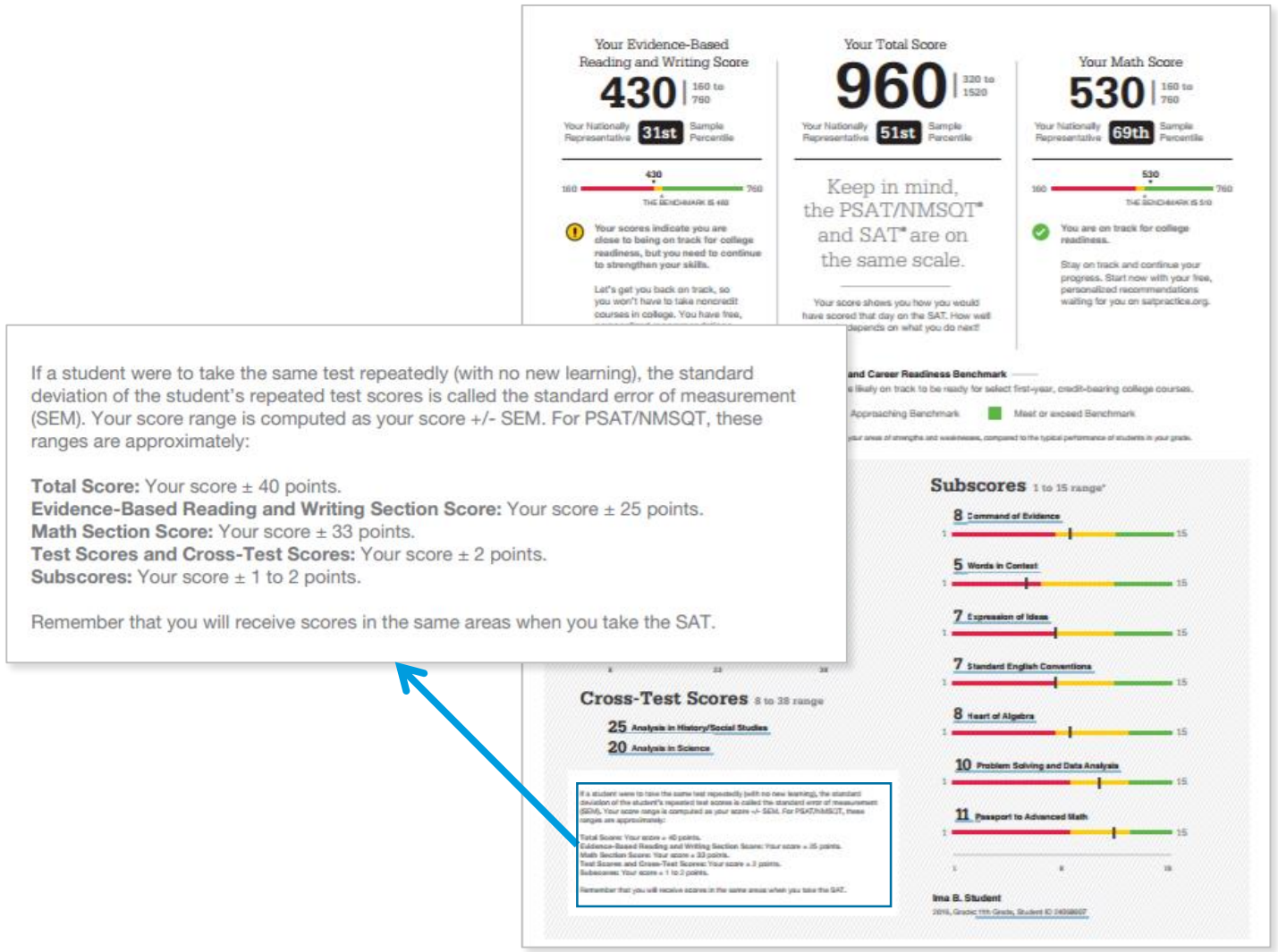
What Are My Score Percentiles?

Percentiles and benchmarks are provided for 10th and 11th grades on the PSAT/NMSQT®.

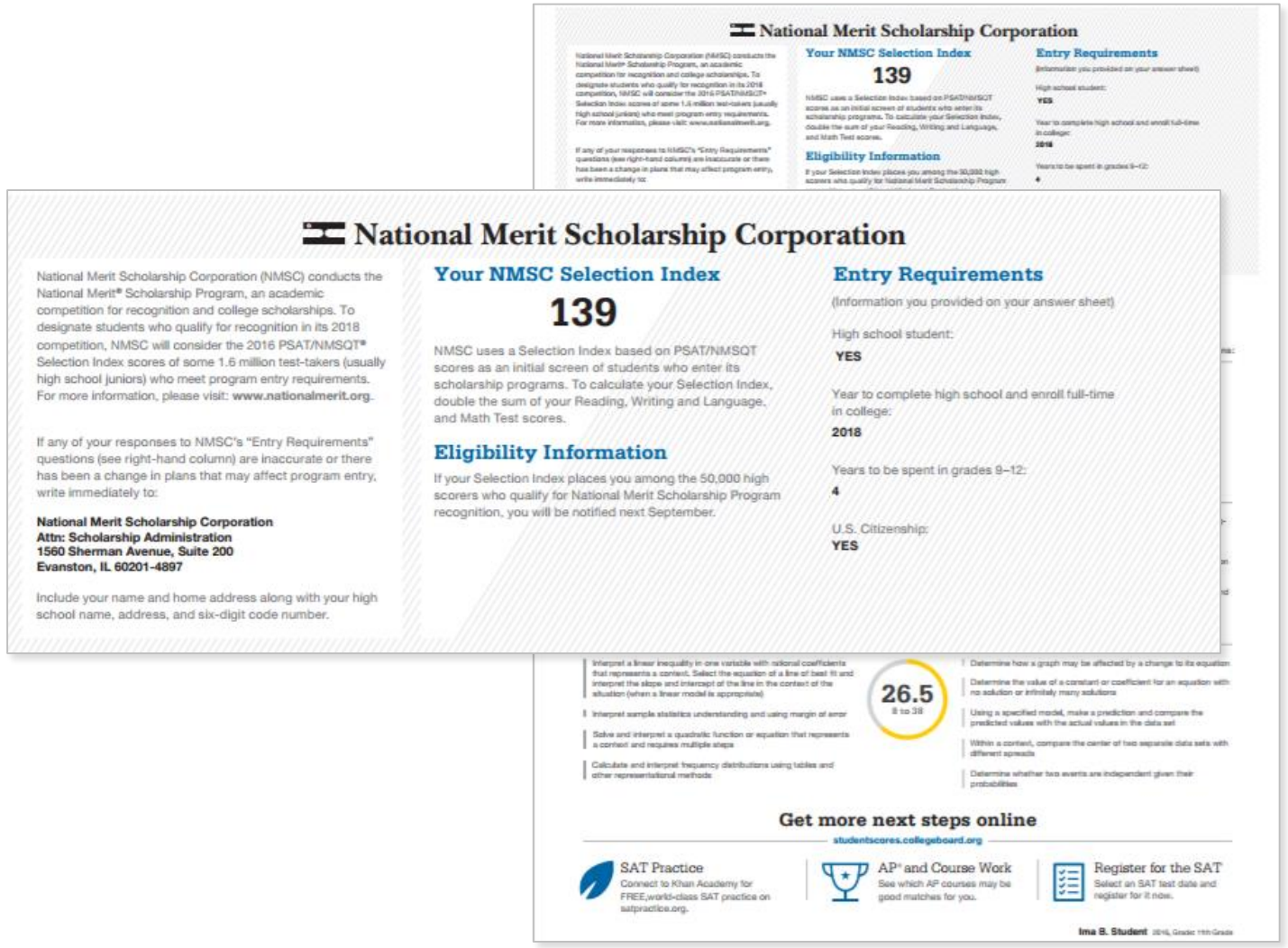


What Are My Score Ranges?

PSAT/NMSQT® scores should be interpreted as ranges rather than singular points.



What Is the National Merit® Scholarship Program?



National Merit Scholarship Corporation

National Merit Scholarship Corporation (NMSC) conducts the National Merit® Scholarship Program, an academic competition for recognition and college scholarships. To designate students who qualify for recognition in its 2018 competition, NMSC will consider the 2016 PSAT/NMSQT® Selection Index scores of some 1.6 million test-takers (usually high school juniors) who meet program entry requirements. For more information, please visit: **www.nationalmerit.org**.

If any of your responses to NMSC's "Entry Requirements" questions (see right-hand column) are inaccurate or there has been a change in plans that may affect program entry, write immediately to:

National Merit Scholarship Corporation
Attn: Scholarship Administration
1560 Sherman Avenue, Suite 200
Evanston, IL 60201-4897

Include your name and home address along with your high school name, address, and six-digit code number.

Your NMSC Selection Index

139

NMSC uses a Selection Index based on PSAT/NMSQT scores as an initial screen of students who enter its scholarship programs. To calculate your Selection Index, double the sum of your Reading, Writing and Language, and Math Test scores.

Eligibility Information

If your Selection Index places you among the 50,000 high scorers who qualify for National Merit Scholarship Program recognition, you will be notified next September.

Entry Requirements

(Information you provided on your answer sheet)

High school student:
YES

Year to complete high school and enroll full-time in college:
2018

Years to be spent in grades 9–12:
4

U.S. Citizenship:
YES

26.5
8 to 38

Get more next steps online

studentscores.collegeboard.org

SAT Practice
Connect to Khan Academy for FREE,world-class SAT practice on satpractice.org.

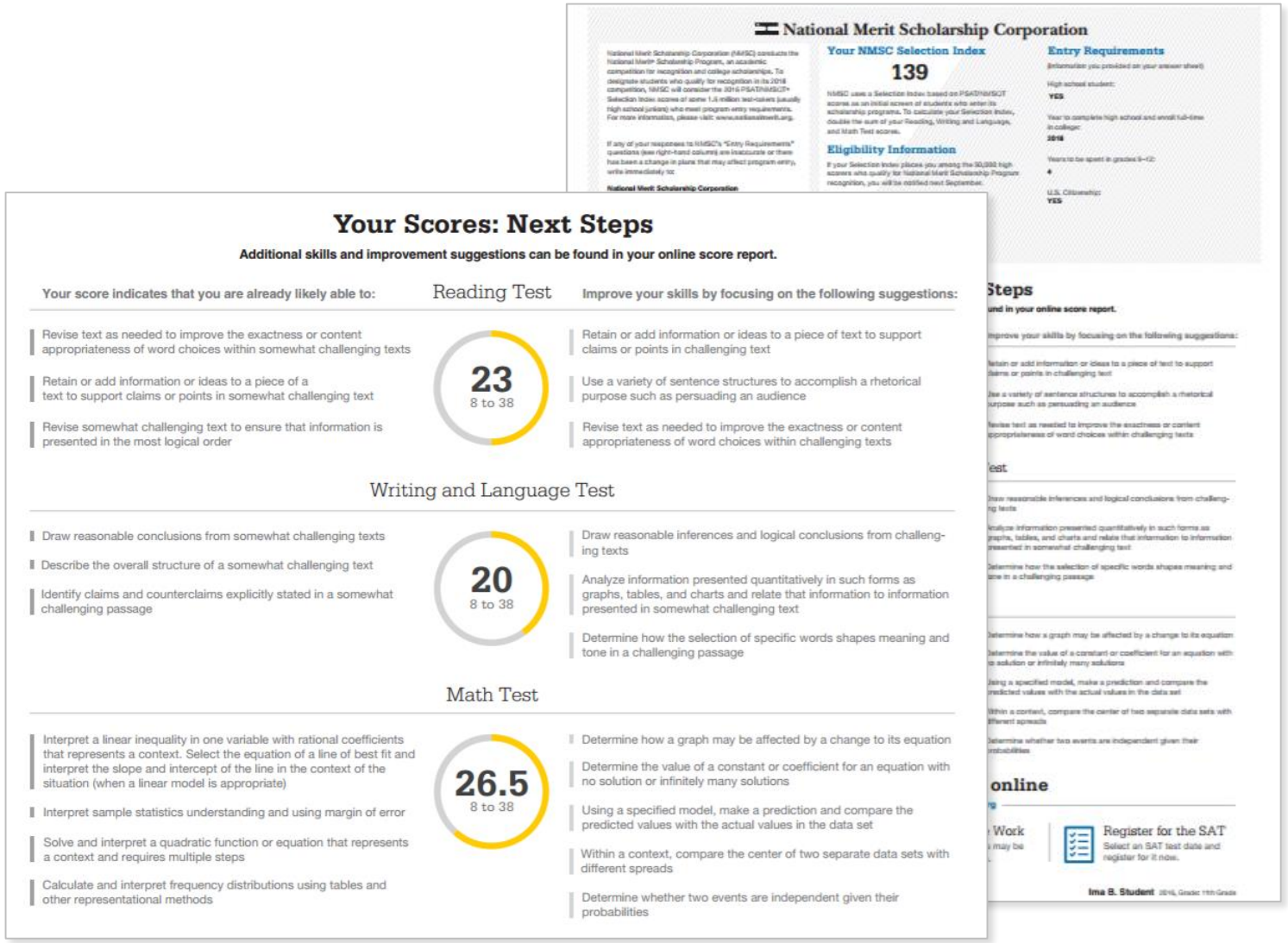
AP® and Course Work
See which AP courses may be good matches for you.

Register for the SAT
Select an SAT test date and register for it now.

Ima B. Student

What Are My Areas of Strength? What Skills Do I Need to Build?

Your Scores: Next Steps



National Merit Scholarship Corporation

Your NMSC Selection Index

139

Entry Requirements

Eligibility Information

Your Scores: Next Steps

Additional skills and improvement suggestions can be found in your online score report.

Your score indicates that you are already likely able to:

Reading Test

Improve your skills by focusing on the following suggestions:

Revise text as needed to improve the exactness or content appropriateness of word choices within somewhat challenging texts

Retain or add information or ideas to a piece of a text to support claims or points in somewhat challenging text

Revise somewhat challenging text to ensure that information is presented in the most logical order

23
8 to 38

Retain or add information or ideas to a piece of text to support claims or points in challenging text

Use a variety of sentence structures to accomplish a rhetorical purpose such as persuading an audience

Revise text as needed to improve the exactness or content appropriateness of word choices within challenging texts

Writing and Language Test

Draw reasonable conclusions from somewhat challenging texts

Describe the overall structure of a somewhat challenging text

Identify claims and counterclaims explicitly stated in a somewhat challenging passage

20
8 to 38

Draw reasonable inferences and logical conclusions from challenging texts

Analyze information presented quantitatively in such forms as graphs, tables, and charts and relate that information to information presented in somewhat challenging text

Determine how the selection of specific words shapes meaning and tone in a challenging passage

Math Test

Interpret a linear inequality in one variable with rational coefficients that represents a context. Select the equation of a line of best fit and interpret the slope and intercept of the line in the context of the situation (when a linear model is appropriate)

Interpret sample statistics understanding and using margin of error

Solve and interpret a quadratic function or equation that represents a context and requires multiple steps

Calculate and interpret frequency distributions using tables and other representational methods

26.5
8 to 38

Determine how a graph may be affected by a change to its equation

Determine the value of a constant or coefficient for an equation with no solution or infinitely many solutions

Using a specified model, make a prediction and compare the predicted values with the actual values in the data set

Within a context, compare the center of two separate data sets with different spreads

Determine whether two events are independent given their probabilities

online

Register for the SAT

Ima B. Student

What Are My Next Steps?

- **Continue to take challenging courses in high school**
- **Link scores with Khan Academy®**
- **Set up a practice plan and stick to it**
- **Register for the SAT®**
- **Utilize other resources to research and prepare for college**

Official SAT® Practice with Khan Academy®—It's FREE!

- Go to **satpractice.org** and create a free account.
- Get personalized recommendations. Link your Khan Academy account to your College Board account to import past SAT Suite results, or take diagnostic quizzes to get personalized recommendations.
- Create a study plan. Select a test date and set up a practice schedule.



How Can I Practice with Khan Academy®?

Watch a video introducing Official SAT Practice on Khan Academy



- Thousands of practice questions and videos covering every SAT® concept
- Six official, full-length SAT practice tests with more to come
- Personalized recommendations based on each student's strengths and weaknesses
- Tailored practice schedule mapping out each students' path to test day
- SAT tips and strategies, sharing information about each part of the test

What Steps Will I Follow to Link My College Board Account to Khan Academy®?



Step 1
Log in or create a Khan Academy account.

Step 2
When prompted, agree to link your Khan Academy and College Board accounts. You will then be directed to collegeboard.org.

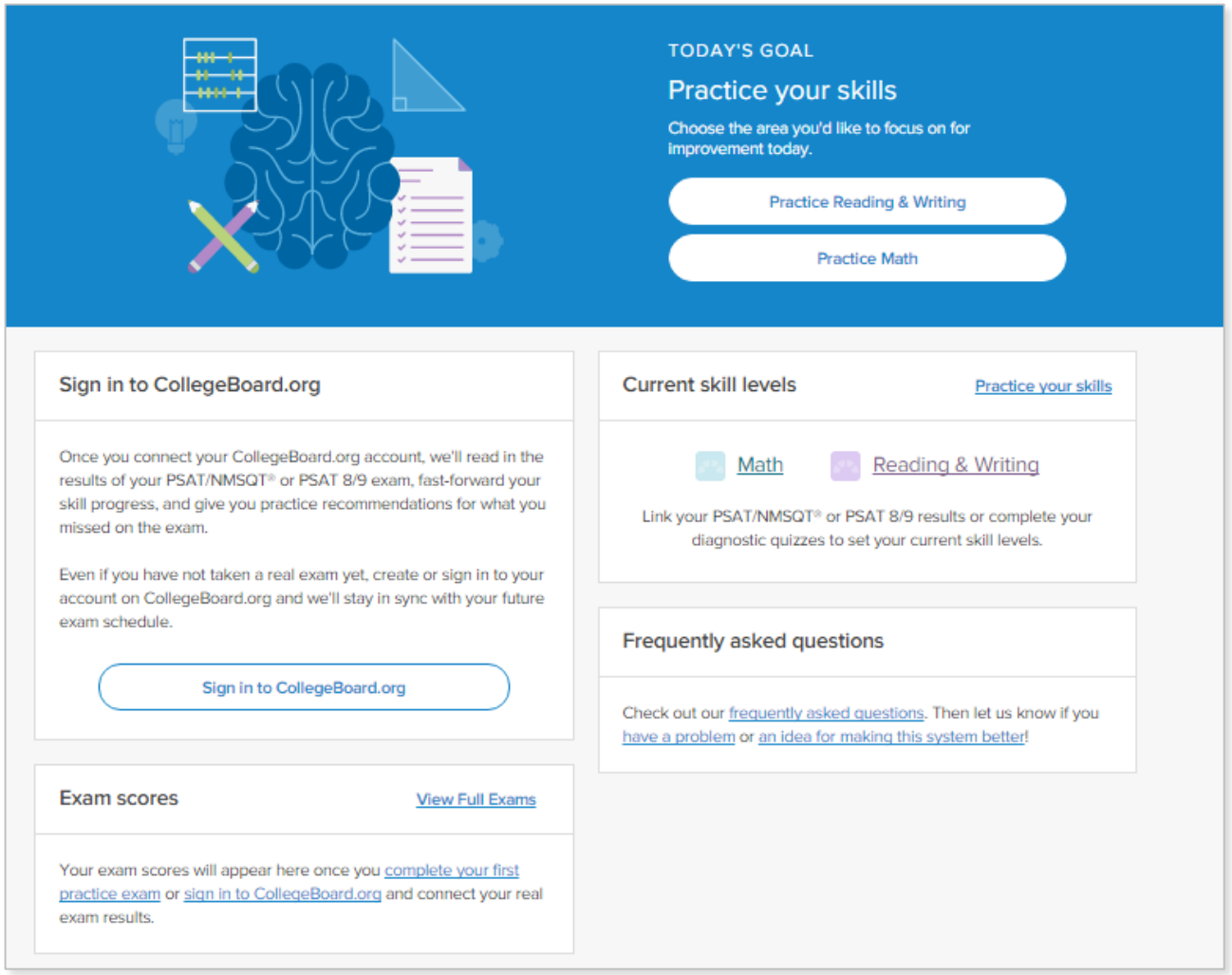
Step 3
Sign in or create a College Board account.

Step 4
When prompted, hit “Send” to authorize the account linking.

Step 5
Start practicing on Official SAT® Practice on Khan Academy!

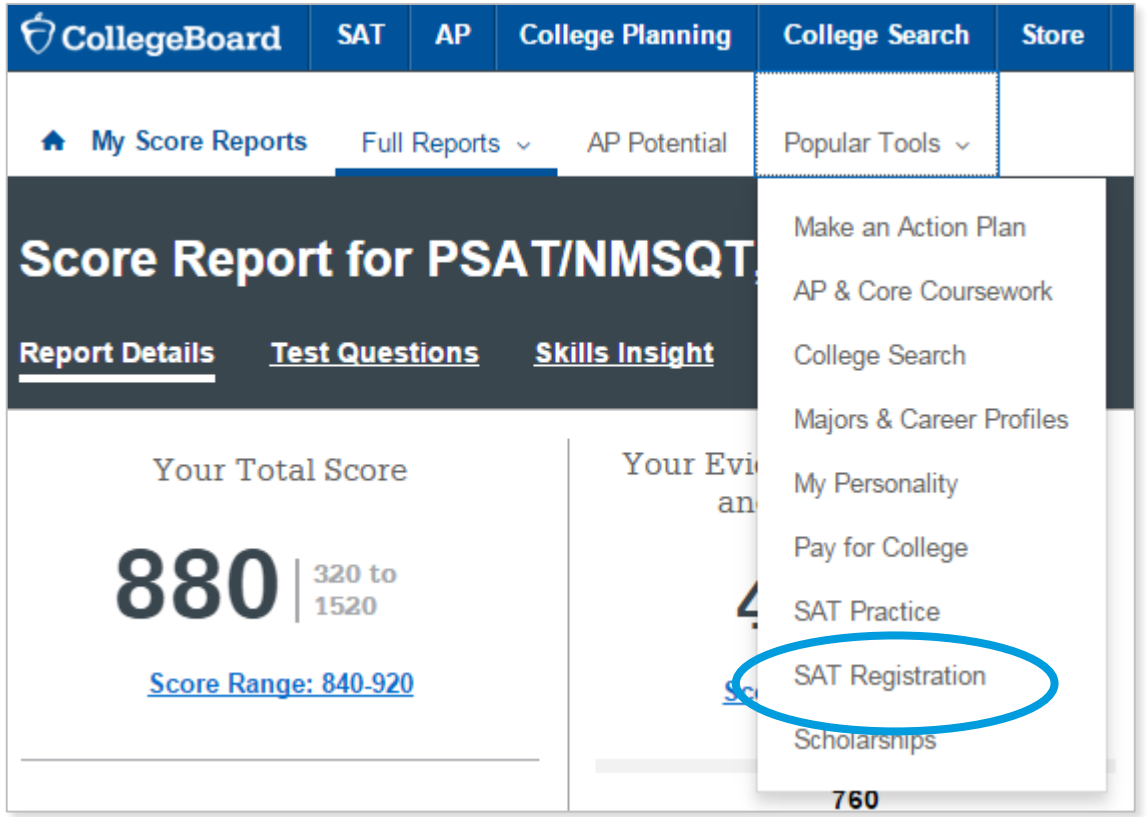
How Can I Link My College Board and Khan Academy® Accounts?

- After successfully logging in to your College Board account, you will be asked to authorize the account linking.
- After clicking “Send,” you will be redirected to SAT® Practice on the Khan Academy site.
- You can remove the link at any time by clicking on “Revoke,” which is found in your College Board account settings.



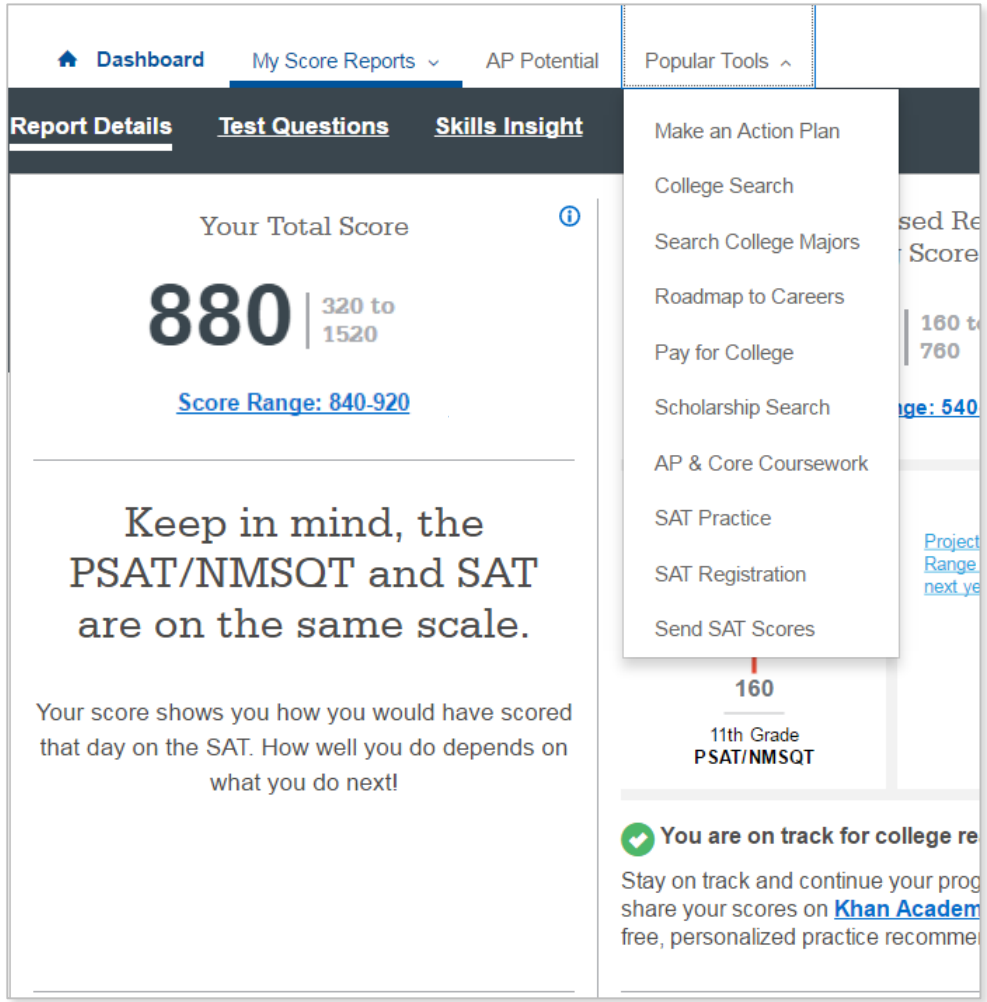
How Do I Register for the SAT®?

- SAT Registration link from Popular Tools menu
- sat.org/register



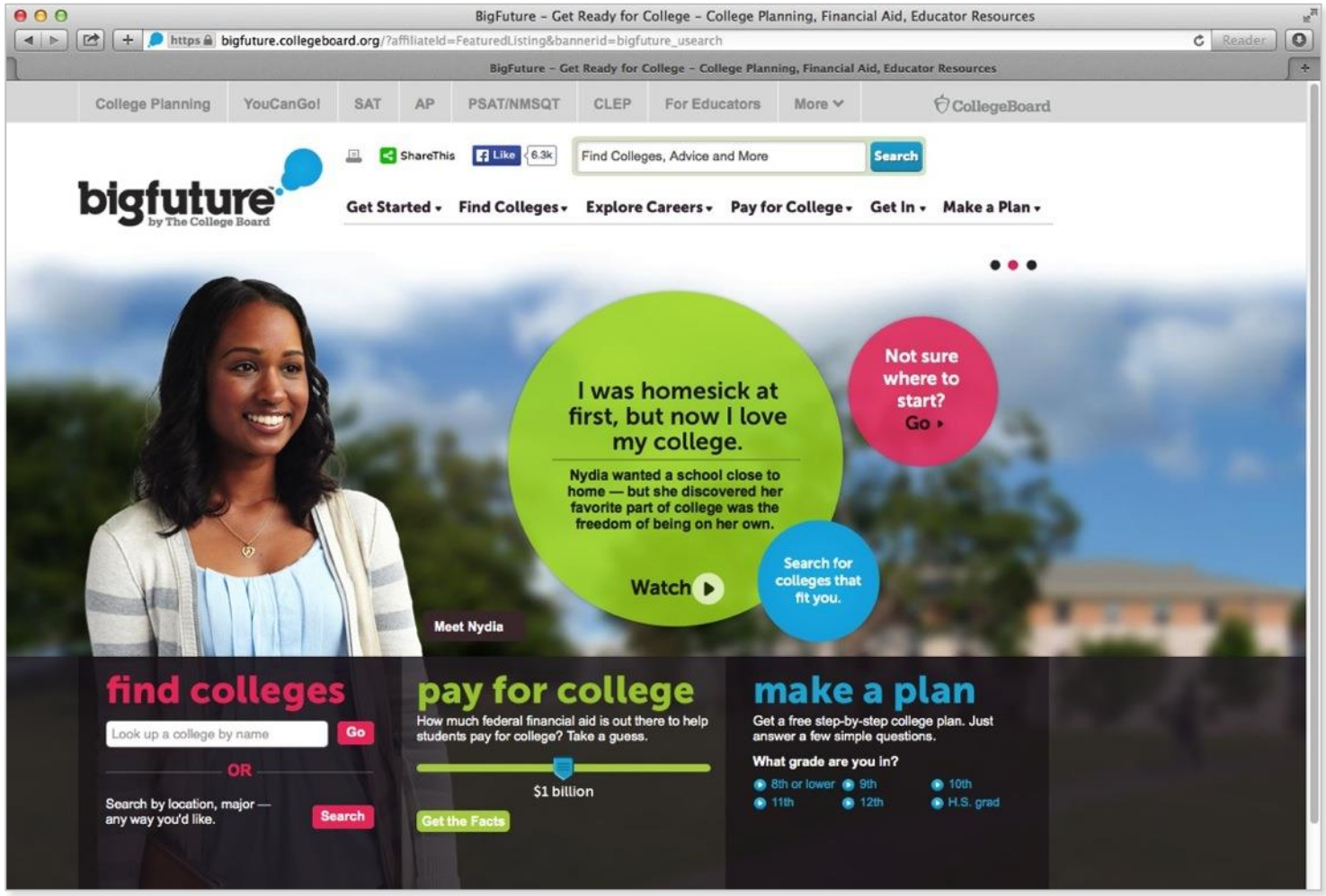
What Additional Resources Will Help Me Prepare for My Future?

- BigFuture™
  - College Action Plan
  - College Search
  - Scholarships
  - Financial Aid
- Roadmap to Careers
- Student Search Service®



BigFuture™— Search Colleges, Scholarships, and Careers

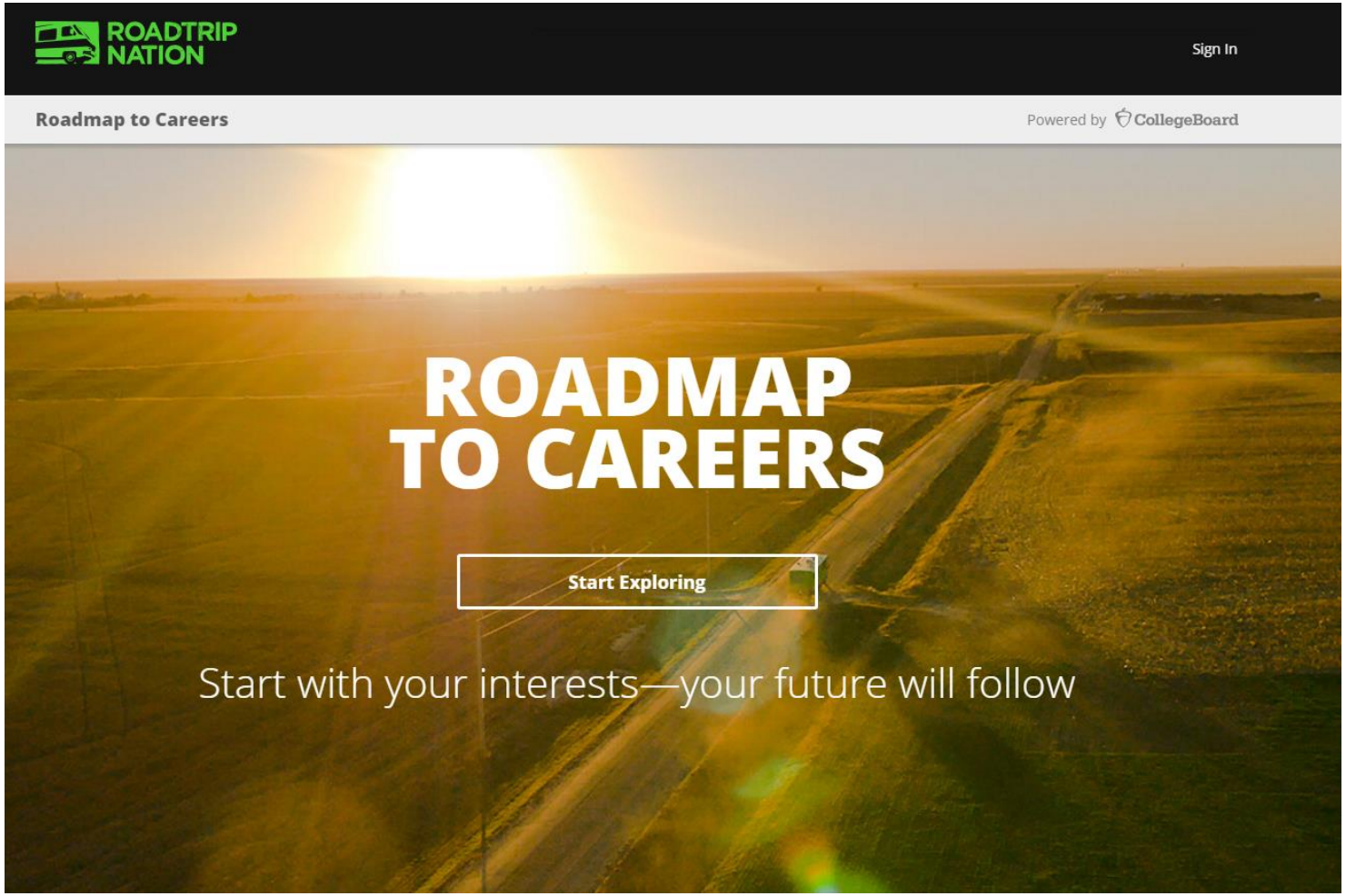
- Search for colleges.
- Watch videos from real students.
- Hear from education professionals.
- Learn about different colleges.
- Get help paying for college.
- Build a personalized plan for getting into college.



Road Map to Careers

Roadtrip Nation and College Board are partnering to help students connect with careers.

- Choose your core interests.
- Watch videos of leaders who share your interests.
- Learn about majors and careers that align to your interests.
- See examples of leaders who followed a similar path.



Student Search Service®

Connects students with information about educational and financial aid opportunities.

- Participate voluntarily.
- Connect with more than 1,200 colleges, universities, scholarship programs, and educational organizations.
- Sign up when you take an assessment in the SAT® Suite:

1. Choose to participate in Student Search Service when registering for a College Board test (fill in the circle on the answer sheet).
2. Provide information about yourself on your answer sheet.
3. Participating organizations can then search for groups of students who may be a good fit.
4. FYI: The College Board never shares information on disabilities, parental education, self-reported parental income, Social Security numbers, phone numbers, or actual test scores through Student Search Service.

Thank You.

PSAT/NMSQT®

CollegeBoard / NATIONAL MERIT SCHOLARSHIP CORPORATION