

Dear Parents/Guardians/Caretakers of Juniors & Sophomores:

We are writing to provide you with information regarding the Preliminary SAT/National Merit Scholarship Qualifying Test (PSAT/NMSQT).

Basic Information Regarding the PSAT Administration

- Day/Date: Saturday, October 15, 2022 **(The exam is only offered once per year.)**
- Time: Arrive between 7:45 a.m and 8:00 a.m. The administration will begin promptly at 8:05 a.m.
- Note: The PSAT is a standardized test. No student is allowed to leave the exam before the end of the fully allotted time. It is difficult to predict when the exam will be finished; therefore, we suggest that students plan to be in the exam until at least noon. Students pre-approved by the College Board for the accommodation of extended time should plan to be in the exam until 1:30 p.m.

Registering for the PSAT

- Students wishing to register for the PSAT will do so online.
- Students will use NRHS's Total Registration site to register. The following link can be used to access NRHS's Total Registration site: [Click Here](#).
- The fee for the exam is \$38.
- The registration period will open on **Monday, September 19th** and will remain open through **Sunday, October 2nd**.
- The registration site closes at 11:59 p.m. on Sunday, October 2nd.
- A debit or credit card can be used to pay registration fees. If preferred, the fee can also be paid by check.
- Be sure to respond to all questions on the registration site. **Registration is not complete until students have printed the confirmation page that is provided at the end.**
- The registration site includes links to the PSAT/NMSQT Student Guide 2022 and to the College Board's PSAT Practice page. Students who would like a paper copy of the PSAT/NMSQT Student Guide 2022 can obtain one in the Guidance Office.

Who may want to take the PSAT? Why might one want to take the PSAT?

The PSAT is a very useful tool for students who plan to continue their education at the postsecondary level. The exam measures skills related to reading, mathematics, and writing. North Reading High School recommends that any members of the **Class of 2024** who plan to continue their education at the postsecondary level take the exam. The experience of taking the exam and the results will help students prepare for the SAT. Information related to a student's results is detailed and personalized. Once results are received (*typically in December*), students can access free exam preparation tools offered by the College Board and its partner, Khan Academy. While it is difficult to give "one size fits all" advice, in general, it is recommended that juniors take the SAT for the first time in the spring (*i.e. March, May or June*) of their junior year. In addition, any junior who performs extremely well on the PSAT may qualify for the initial round of the National Merit Scholarship Competition.

Please note that any student in the **Class of 2025** can also take the exam. This administration serves as an “extra practice” for them. A student may not perform as well as a sophomore as he/she would as a junior; however, please keep in mind that the results of the exam are shared with the student and the school and are not typically used for any other purpose. Whether to take the exam as a sophomore for “extra practice” is a personal decision; therefore, if a sophomore and his/her parents/guardians decide that waiting one more year to take the PSAT would be best, it is perfectly fine. Students who take the PSAT as sophomores are not considered part of the National Merit Scholarship Competition. A student would have to take the PSAT again as a junior if he or she wished to attempt to qualify for the National Merit Scholarship Competition.

Note on Pencils, Calculators, and Mobile Phones

Calculators: We recommend students bring and use a calculator they are familiar with on the Math Test – A scientific or graphing calculator is recommended. Students may not share calculators. All scientific calculators and most graphing calculators are acceptable. All 4-function calculators are permitted on the Math Test, but scientific or graphing calculators are generally recommended. [CLICK HERE](#) to check if your calculator is an acceptable one for the PSAT.

Pencils: All students should bring at least two No.2 pencils with erasers. **Please note that mechanical pencils are *not* allowed.**

Mobile phones and other electronic devices: Students can choose to bring their mobile phones or leave them at home. Please note that mobile phones are required to be turned off and will be collected and set aside in the testing room for the duration of the administration. Students are not allowed to access their mobile phones at any time during the administration. Mobile phones will be returned at the completion of the administration. Students are advised to leave such devices as smart watches, or any other device that can access the Internet, at home. If a student has such a device it will have to be collected and returned at the end of the exam.