

**SITE OPERATIONS CIRCULAR NO. 1022**

Office of Leadership & Learning

**SAN DIEGO UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT**

**Date:** 2020-21 school year

**To:** High School Principals and Vice Principals; Area Superintendents

**Subject:** 2020 Preliminary SAT/National Merit Scholarship Qualifying Test (PSAT/NMSQT)

**Department and/or Persons Concerned:** High School Principals, Vice Principals, and PSAT Coordinators. Sites that enroll students in Grade 11.

**Reference:** College Board PSAT/NMSQT Website  
(<https://collegereadiness.collegeboard.org/psat-nmsqt-psat-10> )

**Action Requested:** Review information regarding administration and payment of the PSAT/NMSQT for the 2020-21 Academic Year

**Brief Explanation:**

San Diego Unified School District will sponsor the PSAT/NMSQT for all 11<sup>th</sup> graders. All district 11<sup>th</sup> grade students are encouraged to take the PSAT/NMSQT on January 26, 2021. Considering this exam is only available in-person, safety precautions will be thoroughly explored prior to hosting students.

College Board's PSAT/NMSQT offers all students early preparation for college with a practice exam, online resources for future test score improvement and scholarship opportunities. College Board's PSAT/NMSQT exam serves several purposes and providing it during the school day to our students allows for the most equitable opportunity for all to achieve their college goals.

The district will provide funding for the PSAT/NMSQT for students in grade 11 only. The district will not cover the cost for these exams for students in other grades. The goal in focusing on 11<sup>th</sup> graders is (1) to ensure ample safe space and proctors to host this in-person exam and (2) the National Merit Scholarship Qualifying Test is only available to juniors. Free practice exams are available at <https://collegereadiness.collegeboard.org/psat-nmsqt-psat-10/practice> .

Sites may elect to have students in other grades take the exam, though sites will be responsible for collection of payment from students and payment of these exams to College Board.

### **PSAT/NMSQT Content:**

The PSAT/NMSQT exam is 139 questions in three sections: Reading, Math, and Writing and Language. It measures what students have learned in high school so far and what students can improve on for success in college. For full details, visit <https://collegereadiness.collegeboard.org/psat-nmsqt-psat-10/inside-the-test>

### **Implementation:**

- All district 11<sup>th</sup> grade students are encouraged to take the PSAT/NMSQT on **Tuesday January 26, 2020**.
- District will host a testing coordinator workshop on November 20, 2020 to review ordering and safety requirements to administer in-person exams. If it is not safe to host in-person exams, a contingency plan will be shared at this time.

### **Important PSAT/NMSQT deadlines:**

- November 6, 2020 = PSAT Coordinators must confirm they have enough fee waivers to cover all 11<sup>th</sup> graders who qualify. To request more and for further details, visit <https://collegereadiness.collegeboard.org/psat-nmsqt-psat-10/k12-educators/requesting-fee-waivers>
- November 20, 2020 at 12pm = PSAT Coordinator Workshop to confirm we can safely host in person exams, plus ordering and administration details (RSVP to [ramato@sandi.net](mailto:ramato@sandi.net) for Zoom link)
- December 4, 2020 = ordering deadline for January exam date
- December 7, 2020 = deadline to request testing accommodations for January exam date
- January 26, 2021 = PSAT/NMSQT exam date at school sites (no online option)
- January 29, 2021 = Coordinators will identify all students who qualify for fee waiver and send invoice to [ramato@sandi.net](mailto:ramato@sandi.net) for district to pay for 11<sup>th</sup> graders who do not qualify for fee waiver.
- Mid-March 2021 = PSAT/NMSQT score reports released online (<https://studentscores.collegeboard.org/home>) Online score reports include:
  - i. Show students the skills they can work on to improve results on SAT.
  - ii. [Free, personalized SAT study](#) on the Khan Academy®

- iii. AP courses through [AP Potential™ feedback](#) – sites should use for targeted recruitment into advanced courses for the upcoming school year
- iv. [Career Finder](#), create your own career roadmap
- v. College Search and Major and Career Search on [BigFuture](#)
- vi. [SAT registration](#)

**Payment – ONLY required if testing students other than 11<sup>th</sup> grade.**

PSAT/NMSQT exams cost \$17.00 each. Each site must cover the cost of PSAT/NMSQT tests for its students in grade 9 or 10. School sites will make payments for any 9<sup>th</sup> or 10<sup>th</sup> graders who take the PSAT/NMSQT exam as they pay any other vendor.

For information regarding the PSAT/NMSQT payment, contact Cris Childers - [cchilders@sandi.net](mailto:cchilders@sandi.net)

For additional information regarding the PSAT/NMSQT exam, contact Rachel Amato – [ramato@sandi.net](mailto:ramato@sandi.net) or [psat@info.collegeboard.org](mailto:psat@info.collegeboard.org).

APPROVED:

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