



What is the PSAT?

The PSAT, or Preliminary Scholarship Aptitude Test, is one of the first official steps on the road to college. It serves as an introduction to the Scholastic Aptitude Test (SAT) that is required for most college applications. All sophomore and junior students at Brebeuf are registered to take the PSAT exam. The State of Indiana covers the cost of the test for all sophomore students and Brebeuf Jesuit covers the exam fees for junior students. Your student will not be charged to take the exam.

When is the PSAT?

Wednesday, October 11, 2017. Students must be in their testing rooms no later than 8:10 a.m. They must bring several #2 pencils, and a calculator. Cell phones and other electronic devices will not be permitted in the testing rooms, along with no food or drink. Testing will be completed at approximately 11:45 a.m. (1:30 p.m. if approved for extended time). The exam room assignments will be posted in the building in early October.

Who is taking the PSAT?

Brebeuf Jesuit students take the PSAT in October of their sophomore and junior years. There is no charge for the exam and students are automatically registered.

Why are Brebeuf students taking the PSAT?

The PSAT/NMSQT is the best preparation for the SAT. Students who take the PSAT in 11th grade and meet other program entry requirements may enter the National Merit Scholarship Corporation programs.

What is National Merit?

At times, you might see the letters NMSQT associated with the PSAT. For juniors, the PSAT doubles as the National Merit Scholarship Qualifying Test. If a junior scores exceptionally well on the exam, he or she may be named as a National Merit Semifinalist. Each year, 16,000 high school juniors achieve this status; a great honor which includes significant scholarship opportunities at certain colleges and universities.

What content is included on the PSAT?

Content areas include:

1. Evidence-based Reading & Writing
2. Math

The length of the test will be 2 hours and 45 minutes and the PSAT is scored on a scale of 1520; maximum score on each of the two sections is a 760.

What should be done to prepare for this test?

Classroom learning is the basis for test questions, so the best way students can prepare is by taking rigorous courses and becoming familiar with the test and its format. Students should review the PSAT/NMSQT Official Student Guide, which is full of useful information, including a full-length practice test. The Student Guide and the practice test will help students understand all the directions and be familiar with the types of questions that will be asked. The Student Guide will be distributed to students during the Pre-Administration sessions October 4-6.