

Important Information About Taking the PSAT™ 8/9

Standard rules give all students the same opportunity and prevent any student from having an unfair advantage. When you take the test, you will be asked to read and sign a Certification Statement stating that you agree to follow these rules, so read them carefully. Also read about grounds for score cancellation in this flyer. Failure to follow these testing rules or any instructions given by the test supervisor may result in your scores being canceled.

Use and Distribution of Scores and Student Information

When you take the PSAT™ 8/9 and sign the answer sheet, you indicate that you understand how your scores and personal information will be used.

Some schools, districts, and states receive PSAT 8/9 scores with other information about their students. The College Board does not share your PSAT 8/9 test results with any other third parties.

If your school registers all students at the same time, the College Board may receive your personal information, including first name, last name, sex, date of birth, and mailing address, from your school. This information will be kept secure and added to your permanent College Board record to be used for score reporting and other educational purposes. By taking the PSAT 8/9 and signing the PSAT 8/9 answer sheet, you indicate that you approve of your school supplying this information to the College Board and consent to the College Board retaining this information.

Test Day Rules

- Mark your answers on the answer sheet. You will not receive credit for anything written in the test book. You may not leave the room with your test book. You may use only your test book for scratch work (unless approved for an accommodation).
- You may use an approved calculator only during the Math Test – Calculator portion of the PSAT 8/9; you may not have a calculator on your desk during the Reading or the Writing and Language sections, and you may not share a calculator during the test or during breaks. You may use only one calculator at any given time — if you brought a second one for backup, it must be kept under your desk.
- You are not allowed to use protractors; compasses; rulers; cutting devices; earplugs; scratch paper, notes, books, dictionaries, or references of any kind; pamphlets; pens, mechanical pencils, highlighters, or colored pencils; listening, recording, copying, or photographic devices; or any other aids. You may not bring food or drink (including bottled water) into the test room, unless preapproved for medical reasons.
- You may not use cell phones or other prohibited electronic devices during the test or breaks. Prohibited devices include, but are not limited to, cell phones or smartphones; audio players/recorders, tablets, laptops, notebooks, or any other personal computing devices; separate timers of any type; cameras or other photographic equipment; any devices (including smartwatches) that can be used to record, transmit, receive, or play back audio, photographic, text, or video content. Power must be turned off, and these devices must be stored under your desk. If your watch has an alarm, you must turn that off as well. If your phone makes noise, or you are seen using it at any time (including breaks), you will be dismissed immediately, your scores will be canceled, and the device may be confiscated and its contents inspected.
- You may not give or receive assistance or disturb others during the test or breaks unless you have been approved for accommodations.
- You can't skip ahead or go back to a previous test section while taking the PSAT 8/9.
- You may take the PSAT 8/9 only once each school year. If you begin a test, it counts as a test you have taken.
- All PSAT 8/9 test-takers in your school must take the test at the same time.
- If you become ill and/or must leave during the test, or if for any other reason you don't want your test scored, you may ask the test supervisor to destroy your answer sheet before you leave the testing room. After you leave the testing room, any decision to withdraw your answer

sheet from scoring must be reported immediately to the test supervisor.

- **You may not discuss the contents of the test with anyone else, or share them through any means, including but not limited to emails, text messages, and the internet, until after score reports have been distributed.**
- Members of your household or immediate family may not serve as PSAT 8/9 supervisors, coordinators, or proctors, even at a different school, on the date that you take the test.

Grounds for Score Cancellation

To report scores that accurately reflect performance, Educational Testing Service (ETS), on behalf of the College Board, maintains test administration and security standards designed to give all students the same chance to demonstrate their abilities and to prevent any student from gaining an unfair advantage because of testing irregularities or misconduct. ETS reviews irregularities and test scores believed to have been earned under unusual circumstances.

- You may be dismissed from the testing room and your answer sheets may be destroyed if you don't follow testing rules or instructions given by the test supervisor. Once answer sheets are submitted for scoring, ETS may decide not to score the answer sheet of a student who engaged in misconduct or was involved in a testing irregularity.
- ETS reserves the right to cancel scores if there is reason to doubt their validity. Before acting, ETS will let you know the reasons for questioning the scores and will give you an opportunity to provide additional information, confirm the scores by taking another PSAT 8/9, or will cancel the scores. You may also request arbitration in accordance with ETS's Standard Arbitration Agreement. If before, during, or after a review of questionable scores, ETS finds that misconduct has occurred in connection with a test, these options will not be available even if previously offered.
- Score reviews are confidential. If it's necessary to cancel reported scores, ETS will notify score users, but the reasons for cancellation will not be disclosed. This policy does not necessarily apply in group cases.

Test Fairness Review

All new PSAT 8/9 test questions and complete new editions of the tests are reviewed by external, independent educators from throughout the United States. These reviews help ensure that wording and content are clear and relevant and use language that's not offensive to or inappropriate for any particular group of students based on race/ethnicity or gender. Assessment staff ensure that the test as a whole references men and women and individuals from varied racial, ethnic, and cultural backgrounds. Using statistics, we identify questions that are harder than expected for a group of students to answer correctly given their performance on other items in the test; these questions are then removed from the test.

Questioning a Test Question

If you find what you consider to be an error or ambiguity in a test question, tell your test supervisor immediately after the test. You may also write to:

Assessment Design and Development
The College Board
250 Vesey Street
New York, NY 10281

Or send an email to

psatquestion@collegeboard.org.

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

NOTE: *We will not respond by email, so be sure to include your full name and mailing address.*

The College Board will send you a written response after we review your inquiry.