

OPTIONAL PSAT - Registration Now Open!

Dear PCH Junior & Sophomore Families,

Welcome to the 2023-24 school year! I know there are many back-to-school messages heading your way, but I wanted to get this information to you as quickly as possible. The PSAT/NMSQT (Preliminary Scholastic Aptitude Test/National Merit Scholarship Qualifying Test) will be available for interested juniors and sophomores at Parkway Central High School on Tuesday, **October 10, 2023**. **New this year, the PSAT is completely digital.**

Should you register?

We are often asked about how many students at PCH take the PSAT. Typically around 100 juniors and 100 sophomores register for the exam. Here are some things to think about as you decide:

- Our district offers the ACT to all students, but if your student thinks they might also choose to take the SAT on their own, the PSAT serves as a practice test for SAT.
- Students are typically most successful on this test if they have already completed a full year of both Algebra and Geometry.
- For juniors only, the PSAT serves as the qualifying test to become a **National Merit Semifinalist/Finalist**. To earn this recognition, student's must score in the top 1% of test takers.

If you decide to take the PSAT, how do you register?

Interested junior and sophomore students must be registered through the Infinite Campus PARENT portal **no later than Friday, September 1, 2023 at 2 pm**. The test fee is **\$20.00** and will be added to the parent portal in Infinite Campus once registration is processed.

To register, parents need to sign into their Infinite Campus Parent Portal, select "More" then "Online Payments." If you are accessing on a phone, you will likely need to turn your device horizontally to see the entire screen. Select your student's name (if you have more than one student in Parkway) - tab at top. You will then see a button for "College Board PSAT" near the bottom of the page. Click on the icon and then complete the form. Once you submit the form, the \$20 fee for the exam will be added to your students' account. You may pay online, or in the school store (cash, check or card - note, a 2.5% service fee will be added for credit/debit card payments in the store).

If I have an IEP/504 Plan with testing accommodations, can I get those on the PSAT?

If your student has testing accommodations (ie extended time, breaks as needed) through a current **IEP** or **504 plan** at PCHS and wishes to apply for similar accommodations for the PSAT, the deadline to submit those requests is **August 21 at 8 am!** Please email Mrs. Prange giving permission to release a copy of the current IEP/504 and any required diagnostic information to College Board as soon as possible, but no later than **8:00 am on August 21st** if you would like to pursue this opportunity. **If your student has already taken a PSAT, SAT or AP exam with approved accommodations, those will remain in place for this exam, as well.

I've mentioned several dates, so here is a recap:

- August 11th** – PSAT registration opens (in Parent Portal of Infinite Campus)
- August 21st** – if applicable, IEP/504 testing accommodation requests sent to Mrs. Prange via email by 8 am
- September 1st** – Test registration deadline (form closes at 2pm)
- October 10th** – Test date @ PCH (logistics will be shared later)

If I decide to test, how can I prepare?

The [2023 PSAT/NMSQT Student Guide](#) contains a description of the test, sample questions, and other useful information regarding the National Merit scholarship competition for juniors. A detailed description of the test and sample questions may be found online at [What's on the PSAT/NMSQT](#). Free test preparation is also available through Khan Academy at [Khan Academy](#) (prep for SAT is the same as prep for PSAT). If you have any questions or concerns regarding the PSAT/NMSQT, please feel free to contact me.

Sincerely,

Nana Prange
nprange@parkwayschools.net
PCHS Post-Secondary & Assessment Counselor