

Northwestern University's Midwest Academic Talent Search announces partnership with College Board to offer academically advanced students early, above-grade-level access to the PSAT™ 8/9.

PSAT 8/9 establishes a baseline measurement of college and career readiness, helping educators monitor student performance and pinpoint areas for improvement.

Beginning in fall 2016, academically advanced students in grades 3-6 in the Midwest region will be able to take the PSAT 8/9 years ahead of schedule through Northwestern University's Midwest Academic Talent Search (NUMATS).

In fall 2015, students in grades 8-9 across the country took the first administration of the PSAT 8/9, an assessment that focuses on the skills and knowledge that matter most for college. The PSAT 8/9 establishes a baseline measurement of college and career readiness, helping educators monitor student performance and pinpoint areas for improvement. The PSAT 8/9 also helps students practice and prepare for the PSAT/NMSQT® and SAT®.

In partnering with the College Board, NUMATS recognized the benefits of providing students early access to the PSAT 8/9, including:

- **Measuring and supporting gifted student progress.** Because gifted students often hit a ceiling on grade-level achievement tests, it is difficult to use these tools to measure academic progress and ability. By using the PSAT 8/9 above grade-level on an annual basis, educators and students will be able to use the results to set a baseline, customize instruction, and measure growth toward college and career readiness standards.
- **Preparing students for the PSAT/NMSQT and SAT.** Students will likely take the PSAT/NMSQT as high school juniors in order to qualify for National Merit® and National Achievement® Scholarship Programs, so taking the PSAT 8/9, which is vertically aligned with the suite of SAT assessments, is good practice.
- **Long-range academic planning.** Using the PSAT 8/9 scores of participants in grades 3-6, the NUMATS team will derive grade-level percentiles, thereby providing a more appropriate norm reference for this population of students.
- **Qualifying for special programs, awards, and scholarships.** Participating students may be eligible for a variety of supplemental programs and scholarship opportunities based on their NUMATS percentiles.

NUMATS is currently looking for schools to serve as host sites for testing. For more information, contact NUMATS at numats@ctd.northwestern.edu or 847/491-3782 ext. 3. To become a test center for PSAT 8/9, please complete and submit the form on other side of this sheet as indicated.

**Your School Can Be A
PSAT™ 8/9 Test Center for NUMATS Students**

Was your school/district a national test center for Explore® when it was administered to students in grades 3-6 through Northwestern University's Midwest Academic Talent Search (NUMATS)?

Are you looking for a way to make it easier for your students in grades 3-6, and those from other schools in your area, to take College Board's PSAT 8/9 test through NUMATS in the upcoming years?

Would you like to give students from other schools an opportunity to visit your school?

Consider setting up a PSAT 8/9 test center at your school.

Here's what's required:

- A staff member to serve as the test center supervisor (paid by College Board)
- Other school staff to serve as room supervisors and proctors (paid by College Board)
- Space for testing on one or more PSAT 8/9 test dates
- Quiet testing areas, free from distractions and other events
- Classrooms preferred, with full-sized desks or tables and chairs with backs
- Plenty of space between examinees for security purposes
- A secure location to store test materials

You may choose one or more of the following PSAT 8/9 test dates to offer the test. All three dates will be available to all students, however those who require a non-Saturday date due to religious observance **and** submit a letter from clergy will be given priority for the Sunday date.

Saturday, December 10, 2016

Saturday, January 14, 2017

Sunday, January 15, 2017

If inclement weather requires your testing center to close, it is anticipated that makeup dates will be:

Saturday, January 28, 2017

Sunday, January 29, 2017

All PSAT 8/9 test centers will be listed in NUMATS online registration.

To establish a test center, complete this form and e-mail it to CBprojects@ets.org.

Questions? Please contact ETS (Educational Testing Service):

- Phone: Michaela Artz at 609/683-2425 or Catherine Grimes at 609/683-2023
- E-mail: CBprojects@ets.org

School name: _____

Street address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ ZIP: _____

School phone: _____ Fax: _____

Contact name: _____ Contact title: _____

Contact e-mail: _____ Contact phone: _____