Spring 2024 ISBE-Provided Digital SAT with Essay, PSAT 10, and PSAT 8/9 (for Grade 9)
Digital Testing Overview
Posted September 21, 2023, Updated 03/08/2024

The ISBE-provided SAT with Essay, PSAT 10, and PSAT 8/9 (for Grade 9) will be administered only in a digital format beginning in spring 2024. This document serves to communicate major considerations regarding this shift. More details will be posted on the ISBE SAT/PSAT webpage and on the Spring 2024 General Timeline as they become available.

Testing Window
March 18 - April 26, 2024
Schools may test students on any weekday(s) during the six-week testing window. Any student who is absent on the primary test date selected by the school will be afforded at least one opportunity to test on a subsequent day(s) during the testing window, as feasible with scheduling and staffing.

Testing Sections and Timing

Reading and Writing (SAT with Essay, PSAT 10, and PSAT 8/9)	Math (SAT with Essay, PSAT 10, and PSAT 8/9)	Essay (SAT only)
54 questions (1 section, 2 modules)	44 questions (1 section, 2 modules)	1 prompt (based on a passage of 650-700 words)
64 minutes (32 minutes per module)	70 minutes (35 minutes per module)	50 minutes
Discrete Questions Multiple Choice with 4 Options	Discrete Questions Multiple Choice with 4 Options (≈75%) Student-Produced Response (≈25%)	Keyboard required; tablet users will also be permitted to use a keyboard for the entire test.

Essay (SAT only) scoring details are available on the SAT Essay scoring webpage.

Breaks
For standard time testing, there will be a 10-minute computer-timed break after the Reading and Writing section.
There will be a 10-minute computer-timed break after the Math section, prior to the SAT with Essay.

Synchronous Room Testing for SAT with Essay, PSAT 10, and PSAT 8/9 Permitted but Not Recommended
Testing students with different exams in the same room is permitted but not recommended. While the length of the PSAT 10 and PSAT 8/9 exams are the same, proctors would not be able to see rosters for both PSAT 10 and PSAT 8/9 in Test Day Toolkit unless they are using multiple devices, one for each test. The SAT with Essay has different overall timing due to the essay portion of the exam and is, therefore, recommended to be administered separately from the PSAT 10 and PSAT 8/9.

Student Registrations in College Board's System (Pre-ID)
Student registration details for SAT with Essay, PSAT 10, and PSAT 8/9 will be loaded directly to College Board from ISBE's Student Information System (SIS). It is critical that enrollment details in SIS be accurate and up to date, including the correct identification of each student's "testing school." Schools should review Pre-ID rosters in SIS as soon as students are enrolled, and the deadline to review Pre-ID rosters before data are loaded to College Board is **Wednesday, January 31, 2024**. Programming to exclude grade 12 students who are not are required to test was implemented on November 2, 2023, so please check the Pre-ID rosters in SIS carefully and write to assessment@isbe.net with any questions. This flowchart describes which grade 12 students are required to test in spring 2024. The list of spring 2024 established test sites was posted on December 4, 2023. More details about the Pre-ID process were shared during ISBE's Student Information System (SIS) webinar on December 6 in slides 78-89.

IMPORTANT: Please keep your SIS enrollments up to date.
ISBE is scheduled to transmit the first student registration file to College Board on Friday, February 2, 2024, and plans to send updates to College Board every Friday from February 9 until April 19, 2024. Please note that although users will be provided with access to College Board's State Data Management System (SDMS) on February 2, students will not be visible until the initial file has fully ingested, which is likely to be sometime during the week of February 5. It may take an additional 24-48 hours to update Test Day Toolkit after both the initial and subsequent transmissions to SDMS, so please plan accordingly.

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Digital Readiness

1. College Board will provide paper materials only when required for certain accommodations.
2. Testing staff will use Test Day Toolkit, a web-based application, to administer the test. It can be used on any personal or school-provided device that connects to the internet — no installation required.
3. Students use Bluebook™, the College Board testing app, to take all sections of the test on Mac and Windows devices, iPads, and school-managed Chromebooks. School-managed devices can be assigned to students one-on-one or shared (from a laptop cart or in a computer lab, for example).
4. All assessments have the following two sections — **Reading and Writing** and **Math** — with a 10-minute computer-timed break in between. Each section has two modules that are timed separately. Students can't move to the next test module or submit their answers until their time is up. Only the SAT with Essay has an additional section during which students will respond to an essay prompt. There is a 5-minute computer-timed break before the essay section.
5. Bluebook has a built-in Desmos calculator that can be used during both Math modules. Students may still bring their own approved calculator to testing as they have done with the paper-and-pencil exam.
6. Students need an internet connection to begin testing and at the end of the test to submit responses. Students who lose network connectivity momentarily during testing can continue without losing time.
7. Bluebook times each student individually, so they'll start the test, take breaks, and complete testing at slightly different times.
8. The digital test is more secure. Students test in a secure lockdown mode, and each student receives unique test content.
9. Test coordinators work with school or district technology staff to make sure the network and testing devices are ready for test day. If technical issues arise, testing staff will direct students to the technology monitor in a designated help room.

Accommodations

1. College Board will provide paper materials only when required for certain accommodations.
2. The test is shorter, so students approved for double time for Reading for PSAT 10 and PSAT 8/9 (the entire test) will be able to test in one day.
3. Students approved for double time for Reading for SAT with Essay (the entire test) must test over two days.
4. Some accommodations are administered differently than they are with paper testing. For example, students approved for large print will use the zoom functionality on their devices to enlarge font size.
5. College Board-approved accommodations for SAT with Essay, PSAT 10, and PSAT 8/9 must be requested and/or updated in Services for Students with Disabilities (SSD) Online.
6. State-allowed accommodations and English Learner (EL) Time and One-half (+50%) Extended time for SAT with Essay, PSAT 10, and PSAT 8/9 must be requested in Services for Students with Disabilities (SSD) Online.
7. Using Accommodations on Digital Tests – This College Board webpage contains a chart to describe how approved accommodations will be administered on digital tests.
8. Accommodations and Supports Handbook - This handbook will help SSD coordinators prepare to submit accommodation requests and provide guidance on available accommodations and supports for College Board testing.

Student Readiness

1. Digital SAT® Sample Questions and Answer Explanations
2. Students use Bluebook™, the College Board testing app, to take the test on Mac and Windows devices, iPads, and school-managed Chromebooks.
3. Students can practice for the digital exam in the following ways:
   - Khan Academy – Students may use Khan Academy to access thousands of digital SAT Suite practice questions, videos, lessons, and hints plus test-taking tips and strategies. High quality content is available for every section of the test, including the essay, free of charge. A College Board account is *not* required to access Khan Academy digital SAT Suite practice content.
   - Bluebook™ App – Students can take full length practice tests on the Bluebook app. Students can enter the Bluebook App by using their College Board account login. After students are registered in College Board's system by ISBE, they will also be able to use a sign-in ticket from their school. SAT Essay practice is available in the Bluebook app.

4. Digital Testing Practice Quick Start Guide
5. Practice with the Desmos calculator
   - **Bluebook App:** The calculator and other universal testing tools can be experienced through exam practice or the Bluebook Experience on the app.
   - **Free Desmos Online Resource:** The Desmos graphing calculator can be utilized and practiced with through any device that can connect to the internet; see https://www.desmos.com/calculator.
   - The Desmos website offers self-guided training for students and teachers to get familiar with the calculator and its functionality. The Getting Started With Desmos Graphing Calculator webpage offers resources, including a two-minute YouTube video explaining how the calculator works as well as steps to get started. Students may still bring their own approved calculator to testing as they have done with the paper-and-pencil exam.
6. Paper Practice Resources
   - SAT: https://satsuite.collegeboard.org/digital/digital-practice-preparation/practice-tests/linear
   - PSAT 10: https://satsuite.collegeboard.org/psat-10/preparing/practice-tests/paper
   - PSAT 8/9: https://satsuite.collegeboard.org/psat-8-9/preparing/practice-tests/paper

Webinars and In-Person Workshops

- October 25, 2023: Spring 2024 Digital Overview Webinar (for administrators)
  - Presentation
  - Recording
- November 1, 2, 7, 2023: Spring 2024 Digital Overview Webinar (for test coordinators)
  - Presentation
  - Recording
- November 28, 29, 30, 2023: Spring 2024 Accommodations Overview Webinar (for accommodations coordinators)
  - Presentation
  - Recording
- November 28, 29, 30, 2023: Spring 2024 Technology Overview Webinar (for technology coordinators)
  - Presentation
  - Recording
- Mid-January 2024: In-person workshops throughout the state
  - Presentation
  - Recording
- February 13, 14, and 15, 2024: How to Practice for the SAT with Essay, PSAT 10, and PSAT 8/9
  - Presentation
  - Recording
- February 20, 21, and 22, 2024: Accommodations and Supports Implementation Process Overview, Part 2
  - Presentation
  - Recording

Registration details, slide decks, and recordings will be posted under Presentations & Webinars.

Links for further reference

- Download Bluebook App (student testing platform)
- Approved Testing Devices
- The Digital SAT® Suite of Assessments Specification Overview (Summer 2022)
- Assessment Framework for the Digital SAT® Suite
- College Board Emails and Monthly Newsletters
- College Board and ISBE Office Hours Registration

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