



# CONNECTICUT SAT

## Frequently Asked Questions for Families and Students



### **What is the Connecticut SAT?**

The SAT is a three-hour examination measuring college and career readiness and is accepted at most four-year colleges and universities in the United States. The test is developed by the College Board and offered through the Connecticut State Department of Education to replace the grade 11 Smarter Balanced Assessment.

### **Why did Connecticut choose the SAT in lieu of Smarter Balanced for grade 11 students?**

On October 7, 2015, the Connecticut State Board of Education adopted the SAT as the grade 11 state assessment. The administration of the SAT will eliminate the need to take multiple tests and provide opportunities for more students to take the SAT free of charge during the school day.

### **When will the Connecticut SAT be administered to grade 11 students?**

The Connecticut SAT will be administered free of charge during the school day to all grade 11 public school students on March 2, 2016. Students who have already registered on the College Board website do not need to register specifically for the Connecticut SAT. However, if a student has not yet registered electronically, paper and pencil registration will be occurring in schools in the month of January.

### **How does the Connecticut SAT differ from the SAT?**

The College Board has redesigned the SAT and will administer the new test in the spring 2016. At that time the current SAT will no longer be offered.

The Connecticut SAT uses the redesigned test and will focus on the skills and knowledge that evidence shows are needed for college and career success. The vocabulary tested on the Connecticut SAT will focus on words that students use consistently in college and career environments. The Connecticut SAT will be used for school and district accountability like SBAC and CAPT in the past. For most students, the Connecticut SAT scores may also be used for college admission if desired by the student or parent.

### **What should Connecticut parents do if they've already ordered SAT for Spring 2016?**

If students have already registered for a Spring 2016 administration, they may contact the College Board Customer Service department at 866-756-7346 for assistance with changing their test date or requesting a refund.

### **How will Connecticut SAT scores change?**

The Connecticut SAT will be scored on a 400- to 1600-point scale. The Evidence-Based Reading and Writing section and the Math section will each be scored on a 200- to 800-point scale. There will no longer be a penalty for wrong answers. For more information, see the College Board's website at <https://collegereadiness.collegeboard.org/sat/scores>.

### **What's the best way for students to prepare for the Connecticut SAT?**

Rigorous course work is the best preparation for the Connecticut SAT. As test day approaches, students can use free College Board resources to get to know the exam and to build on their preparation with targeted

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review and authentic practice. The College Board, in partnership with Khan Academy, is offering free practice for all students. To access the Official SAT Practice website, visit <http://www.SATPractice.org>. The College Board offers a free mobile app, Daily Practice for the New SAT, providing a question a day for immediate feedback. Paper and pencil practice forms are also available on the CSDE website along with accessible versions.

### **Can students take both the current SAT and the Connecticut SAT and see which score is higher?**

Some students will take the SAT before the administration of the Connecticut SAT. Because the exam and score scale are changing, the Connecticut State Department of Education recommends these students send all scores to colleges, allowing colleges to use those that are most favorable to the student. Keep in mind that some colleges require students to send all scores.

### **Can the Connecticut SAT scores be reported to colleges?**

Students who have an online SAT account can choose which SAT scores to report to colleges including the Connecticut SAT score. With the SAT Score Choice feature, students have the option to choose which scores, by test date, to send to colleges. If students do not use Score Choice, all scores will be sent.

Students who register using the paper and pencil method must later open an SAT account in order to have scores sent to colleges.

Reporting scores to colleges is a process agreed on by the student/parent and the College Board. Scores will not be reported without express permission of the student or parent.

All Connecticut colleges use and accept the SAT for college admission decisions, and only Yale University requires the optional essay, which is not part of the Connecticut SAT.

### **Is there a cost to send SAT scores to colleges?**

Students will receive four free college score reports when they take the Connecticut SAT. These score report requests must be used within nine days of the test administration. After this window, there is a cost for sending SAT scores to colleges.

### **What if my student needs testing accommodations?**

All students are entitled to testing accommodations on annual state assessments.

For college-reportable scores, students with disabilities will be provided with testing accommodations documented in individualized education programs (IEP) and 504 Plans.

College-reportable scores are available for English learners with the following accommodations:

- written directions in Spanish, Arabic, Portuguese, Polish, Mandarin, and Haitian-Creole; and
- a native language (any) reader of test directions.

School counselors, pupil service personnel, special education case managers, and/or English learner coordinators will assist your student in the process to secure the necessary accommodations for the Connecticut SAT.

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For additional information, please visit the College Board's SAT website at <https://sat.collegeboard.org>.