

Lewis HS PSAT/NMSQT FAQ

When is the PSAT/NMSQT at Lewis HS?

The PSAT/NMSQT will be given at Lewis HS on **Wednesday, October 9**.

Wait, isn't that SAT School Day?

Yes! Both PSAT/NMSQT (for all 10th and 11th grade students) and SAT School Day (for 12th grade students that registered) are on **Wednesday, October 9**.

Who is participating in the PSAT/NMSQT at Lewis HS?

All 10th and 11th grade students enrolled at Lewis HS are expected to participate.

How much does it cost?

There is no cost to participate in the PSAT/NMSQT at Lewis HS if you are a 10th or 11th grade student enrolled at Lewis High School.

Why should I take the PSAT/NMSQT?

All 10th and 11th grade students are expected to participate. In general, it is good practice for other standardized tests, and for younger students, it gives you an idea of how you will do in the future. You can also qualify for scholarships or certain programs with your PSAT/NMSQT score. It can also be used to substitute for certain testing requirements.

How do I know if I registered?

There is no need to register. If you are a 10th or 11th grade student enrolled at Lewis HS, you are automatically registered.

When should I get to school on test day?

Great question! We suggest you get to school between **7:30 and 7:45 AM**.

When you get to school:

- Eat breakfast
- Use the restroom
- Report to your assigned testing room

Please try to arrive early. No students will be admitted to testing rooms after 8:10 AM.

How do I get to school that day?

You should get to school the way you normally do! Buses will be running that day.

Where is my testing room?

All testing students will receive an email with their assigned testing room closer to test day.

What should I bring to school?

You **must** bring:

- #2 Pencils with erasers
- Approved calculator if you wish to use one. Calculators will **not** be provided.

You **may** bring:

- Extra batteries
- A watch without an audible alarm
- Personal hand sanitizer (if you wish)
- Beverage in spill proof container, nut-free snacks in a clear bag
- Emergency contact information
- A small bag to carry your things in. You will NOT be allowed to access your bag during the test.

We recommend dressing in layers and wearing comfortable shoes.

You will **not** be permitted to have prohibited electronic devices in the testing room. For a list of electronic and non-electronic prohibited items, see the [College Board website](#).

Can I bring food/drink for the break?

You may bring a beverage in a spill proof container and snacks in a clear bag. They must remain under your desk during testing. You may access them during breaks and eat in the hallway. We ask that you bring peanut-free snacks due to allergy concerns.

Can I bring my cell phone (smartwatch, FitBit, etc.) to school?

You may not have any prohibited electronic devices during testing, including smartwatches and FitBits. We strongly encourage you to leave all electronic devices at home. It eliminates the possibility that something happens during testing and invalidates your score. For a list of prohibited items, see the [College Board website](#).

If you **MUST** have a cell phone with you because you need to call for a ride home when testing is done, you must turn it OFF while you are in the building and must surrender it to an adult in your testing room. You will not be allowed to have it at your desk. You will get it back after testing is complete in your testing room.

Can I bring a bag?

You can bring a small bag for your things (e.g. wallet, keys) but you will NOT be able to access it during the test. It will stay at the front/side of the room, and you can get it back after testing is complete in your testing room.

Where can I find more information about the test?

College Board has published a lot of information for you in the online [PSAT/NMSQT Student Guide](#). It includes an overview of the tests, including sample items.

How can I prepare?

College Board has tips on how to prepare for the PSAT [on their website](#).

For students who have taken or plan to take the SAT, [official SAT Practice is available on Khan Academy®](#). Khan Academy and the College Board analyzed gains between the PSAT/NMSQT and the SAT and found a positive relationship between use of Official SAT Practice and score improvements on the SAT.

This Khan Academy SAT practice can also help a student prepare for the Preliminary SAT/National Merit Scholarship Qualifying Test (PSAT/NMSQT) and includes options to download an official practice PSAT/NMSQT exam and the scoring form.

What time will I be done testing?

What time you will be finished depends on when everyone in your room arrives, whether or not you have extended time, and whether or not your parent/guardian opts you out of the optional pre-survey questions at the end of the test. Students that have been opted out may be dismissed sooner.

Here is an estimated timeline of the beginning of PSAT/NMSQT Day:

7:30-7:45	Arrive at school
7:45-8:10	Check in at your assigned entrance, then at your testing room
8:10-8:30	Testing starts

The test itself takes about 2 hours (standard time), but this does NOT include the time needed to prepare and read directions. The entire thing typically takes 2.5 to 3 hours, depending on when students arrive and how long it takes to get started. Students testing with standard time should be done by 11:30 AM at the latest.

Can I get breakfast and/or lunch at school?

Yes. Both breakfast and lunch will be provided to testing students.

What about class that day?

Since all 10th and 11th grade students are testing that day, they are NOT expected to be in class. You will be marked present when you come to school to take the test.

What if I am sick? Can I still test?

No. Please do not come to school if you are not feeling well. There will be a make-up day available (date TBD).

Do I have to complete the Pre-Survey questions?

The pre-survey questions are optional.

When and how will I get my score?

The [College Board website](#) states that students will get scores on October 24 IF they test on October 9. If you test on the make-up day, your score may not be available until November 14 (that page also has a link to a video that shows you what to expect in your online score report).

Students can view scores via College Board at <https://studentscores.collegeboard.org/home>. This requires a personal College Board account, so students who do not currently have a College Board account will need to create one. Students should use their personal email (not fcpschools.net accounts) to create their CB accounts as they may need access to these scores past being an FCPS student. Scores can also be accessed via the BigFuture School mobile app IF you provide your mobile number on test day.

Can I get accommodations for testing? Can I choose not to use my accommodations?

Only students with pre-approved College Board accommodations are eligible for accommodated testing. The deadline to submit requests for accommodations was August 5. Requests can still be submitted, but there is no guarantee that they will be approved by College Board by the October 9th testing date.

If you have College Board approved accommodations, you should receive them. If you have accommodations but do not want to use them, please contact our SSD Coordinator Mr. Adam Greenberg (ANGreenberg@fcps.edu). Your parent/guardian will need to waive the accommodation in writing.

If you are not sure about your accommodations, or were very recently approved, please contact our SSD Coordinator Mr. Adam Greenberg (ANGreenberg@fcps.edu).

What if I still have questions?

Email your questions to Ms. Dawley at sldawley@fcps.edu.