Student Answer Sheet Instructions
PSAT/NMSQT
Introduction

This guide will help you fill out your PSAT/NMSQT answer sheet. Be sure to record your answers to the questions on the answer sheet. Answers that are marked in this booklet will not be counted.

If your school has placed a personalized label on your answer sheet, some of your information may have already been provided. You may not need to answer every question. Your instructor will read aloud and direct you to fill out the appropriate questions.

How Answering These Questions Helps You

Answering the questions in Field 9 on your answer sheet allows National Merit Scholarship Corporation (NMSC) to determine whether you meet entry requirements for the National Merit® Scholarship Program.

Additionally, opting in to Student Search Service® (marking “Yes” in Field 15) and answering Questions 16–22 helps you connect with colleges and additional scholarship opportunities. Through Student Search Service, eligible colleges and universities and other scholarship and educational programs can request information that you have provided on your answer sheet, but they won’t receive your actual test scores or phone number.

We strongly recommend that you answer all these questions, because your answers:

- Guide your counselors in helping you plan your future.
- Help the College Board ensure that the PSAT/NMSQT is fair and accurate for all students.

Confidentiality

Your high school, school district, and state may receive your responses to some of the questions. Institutions that receive your PSAT/NMSQT information are required to keep it confidential and to follow College Board guidelines for using information. See the PSAT/NMSQT Student Guide for more details, including how to opt out of Student Search Service if you change your mind.

Demographic and Nontest Questions

1. First and Last Name
This field is required to score your test.

2. Testing Location
This field is required as part of scoring.

3. School
This field is required and will be used to validate your school if a processing exception occurs.

4. School Code
This field is required and will be provided by your teacher or counselor on test day. It is a College Board identifier representing your school.

5. Student Identification
This field is your student ID number. (Do not provide your Social Security Number.) This field is required and used to assist in reporting your scores to your school, district, and state.

6. Grade Level
This field is required to validate your answer sheet as part of scoring.

7. Sex
This field is required to validate your answer sheet for scoring.

8. Date of Birth
This field is required to validate your answer sheet as part of scoring.

9. Questions to Determine Entry to the National Merit Scholarship Program

NMSC conducts the National Merit Scholarship Program, which is a nationwide scholarship competition open to all students who meet entry requirements. It is important that you complete Field 9 so that NMSC can determine whether you meet the requirements to enter the scholarship program.

Answers you give to the following questions, in addition to your Selection Index score (which will be shown on your score report), will be used by NMSC in designating high-scoring participants who will receive recognition in the 2020 National Merit Scholarship Program, including those who will qualify to continue in the competition and be recognized publicly.

1. Are you enrolled as a high school student (traditional or homeschooled)?
   a. Yes
   b. No

2. When will you complete or leave high school and enroll full-time in college?
   a. 2019
   b. 2020
   c. 2021
   d. After 2021
   e. Not planning to attend college

3. How many total years will you spend in grades 9–12?
   a. 1 year
   b. 2 years
   c. 3 years
   d. 4 years
   e. 5 or more years
10–13. Home/Mailing Address

These fields are optional but recommended. Your home or mailing address is used to assist the College Board in matching your answer sheet to your College Board record. (If you are homeschooled, you need to provide this information so that we can mail you a copy of your score report.) The College Board may contact you regarding this test, and your address will be added to your record. If you also opt in to Student Search Service (Question 15), your address will be shared with eligible colleges and universities and other scholarship and educational programs.

Use these street address abbreviations to answer Question 10:

- Apartment APT
- Avenue AVE
- Boulevard BLVD
- Circle CIR
- Court CT
- Drive DR
- East E
- Expressway EXPY
- First 1ST
- Fort FT
- Fourth 4TH
- Heights HTS
- Highway HWY
- Mount MT
- North N
- Northeast NE
- Northwest NW
- Parkway PKY
- Place PL
- Post Office PO
- Road RD
- Route RT
- Second 2ND
- South S
- Southeast SE
- Southwest SW
- Square SQ
- Street ST


Leave this field blank unless you live outside the United States or its territories.

15. Student Search Service

Fill in the appropriate bubble to opt in to or out of Student Search Service (if you opt in, your email address will be included in your record). Student Search Service is a free, voluntary program that connects students with information about educational and financial aid opportunities from eligible colleges and universities and other scholarship and educational programs. By marking “Yes,” you understand that your responses to Questions 16–22 will be kept by the College Board and may be shared with eligible colleges and universities and other scholarship and educational programs that participate in Student Search Service. Would you like us to supply your information for these purposes? Fill in “Yes” if you wish to share your information through Student Search Service. Otherwise, fill in “No.”

Instructions for Questions 16–18

Your instructor will tell you when to begin with Question 16. Use these instructions and options to answer each question. These fields are optional.

16. Racial/Ethnic Group

Answer both questions about Hispanic origin and about race. For these questions about your identity, Hispanic origins are not races.

1. Are you of Hispanic, Latino, or Spanish origin? (You may mark all that apply.)
   a. No, not of Hispanic, Latino, or Spanish origin
   b. Yes, Cuban
   c. Yes, Mexican
   d. Yes, Puerto Rican
   e. Yes, another Hispanic, Latino, or Spanish origin

2. What is your race? (You may mark all that apply.)
   a. American Indian or Alaska Native
   b. Asian (including Indian subcontinent and Philippines origin)
   c. Black or African American (including African and Afro-Caribbean origin)
   d. Native Hawaiian or other Pacific Islander
   e. White (including Middle Eastern origin)

17. Language Background

Answer both questions about your language background.

1. What language did you learn to speak first? (Mark only one.)
Introduction  Demographic and Non-test Questions

1. What language do you know best? (Mark only one.)
   a. English only
   b. English and another language
   c. Another language

2. Grade Point Average
   Indicate your cumulative grade point average for all academic subjects in high school. If you don’t know your exact grade point average, give your best estimate.
   1. A+ (97–100)
   2. A (93–96)
   3. A– (90–92)
   4. B+ (87–89)
   5. B (83–86)
   6. B– (80–82)
   7. C+ (77–79)
   8. C (73–76)
   9. C– (70–72)
   10. D+ (67–69)
   11. D (65–66)
   12. E or F (below 65)

Special Questions (19–20)

19. Parents’/Guardians’ Level of Education
   Indicate the highest level of education of your parent/guardian. If you have two parents/guardians, indicate the level of education for your other parent/guardian in the bubbles that correspond with “B.”
   1. Parent/Guardian 1
      a. Grade school
      b. Some high school
      c. High school diploma or equivalent
      d. Vocational or trade school
      e. Some college
      f. Associate or two-year degree
      g. Bachelor’s or four-year degree
      h. Some graduate or professional school
      i. Graduate or professional degree
   2. Parent/Guardian 2
      a. Grade school
      b. Some high school
      c. High school diploma or equivalent
      d. Vocational or trade school
      e. Some college
      f. Associate or two-year degree

20. Military Relation
   Please indicate if you have a parent or guardian in the military. Mark all that apply.
   1. I have a parent/guardian who is on active duty in the U.S. military.
   2. I have a parent/guardian who is in the National Guard or the Reserves.
   3. I have a parent/guardian who was in the U.S. military but is not serving now.
   4. Neither of my parents/guardians has a current military connection.

21. College Majors
   You don’t need to know what your college major will be—just indicate three majors or areas of study that interest you. Use the College Majors by Academic Area of Study list that follows to answer this question. Write in the code numbers, and fill in the appropriate bubble under each digit. If you’re not sure, please fill in number 999 (Undecided). This field is optional.

22. Email Address
   Email address is optional. If you decide to provide an email address, fill in the bubble to indicate whether the address is yours or a parent’s/guardian’s. The College Board will use the email address to send information such as when your scores are ready. If you opt in to Student Search Service, your email address will be added to your College Board student record. If you indicate that the email address is your own, as co-sponsor of the PSAT/NMSQT, National Merit Scholarship Corporation will receive it. Parent and guardian email addresses will only be used by the College Board.

23. Mobile Number
   This field is optional. If provided, you agree to receive text messages from the College Board about a test program for which you are registered, to participate in research surveys, and/or to receive free college planning services.