



CARY CHRISTIAN SCHOOL

Junior College Counseling: January 2023

PROVIDING AN EXCELLENT *classical* EDUCATION, FOUNDED UPON A *biblical* WORLDVIEW



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CARY CHRISTIAN SCHOOL

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Dickinson College, BA in Political Science and Policy Management Studies

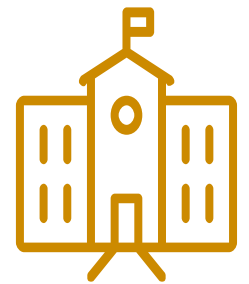
Hood College, MBA

University of California Riverside, Certificate in College Counseling

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Welcome and topics

- We are going to cover:
- **PSAT Results**
- Testing and College Admissions Updates
- Upcoming College Counseling Events
- College Lists
- Summer Activities
- Specialized Recruiting
- Resumes

PSAT Results October 2022

- National Average: 986 EBRW: 501 Math: 486
 - **CCS Juniors: 1161** **EBRW: 608** **Math: 553**
 - Benchmarks for 11th grade EBRW: 460 Math: 510
-
- What the Benchmarks Mean according to College Board: The College and Career Readiness Benchmarks for the SAT predict a 75% likelihood of achieving a C or higher in related first semester, credit-bearing college courses. The benchmarks are set at the section level, so there is a benchmark for Evidence-Based Reading and Writing and a benchmark for Math.
 - When reviewing a score report, areas in green reflect a student's strengths. Areas that are yellow or red reflect areas for a student to prioritize for additional work.

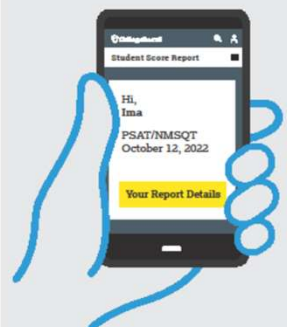
PSAT Score Report

Sample PSAT Score Report, Pages 1 and 2

PSAT/NMSQT
Prestigious Scholarship Qualifying Test



Your Summary Score Report



Get Your Full
Score Report Online

psat.org/myscore

Hi, Ima B. Student
School Name: John F. Kennedy High School
School Code: 123456
Grade: 11th Grade
Student ID: 24068907
Access Code: A02670146P
College Board ID: 12345678

YOUR SCORE TODAY

Your Total Score

960 | 320 to 1520

You are in the **51st** percentile

You scored equal to or higher than 51% of students

Your Evidence-Based Reading and Writing Score

430 | 160 to 760

You are in the **31st** percentile

Your score shows that you're almost on track to be ready for college, but you need to keep building your skills.

Your Math Score

530 | 160 to 760

You are in the **69th** percentile

Your score shows that you're on track to be ready for college.

Your Test Scores*

Reading **23** | 8 to 38
Writing and Language **20** | 8 to 38
Math **26.5** | 8 to 38

* Additional detailed scores, the test scores, provide students with a deeper understanding of their performance. Test scores are also used to calculate your NMSQT Selection Index score.

Go online for your full report

psat.org/myscore

Hi, Ima
Your Full Score Report
960 | 320 to 1520

Questions
Level Detail
See Scores
Strengths and Weaknesses
Personalized Practice

Ima,
This was your score when you took the test; it is not a measure of how far you can grow!

+130 pts

Students with scores like yours increased their performance from the PSAT/NMSQT® to the SAT® by 130 points after 10 or more hours of personalized practice on Khan Academy®.

PSAT Score Report

Sample PSAT Score Report, Pages 3 and 4

YOUR PATH TOMORROW

Here's what else is waiting for you online:

- Course Recommendations**
Congrats! Your scores show you're ready to succeed in AP® courses. Talk to your counselor about signing up.
- Scholarship Opportunities**
Learn more about the National Merit® Scholarship Program. Also, earn BigFuture Scholarships just by planning for college.
- Free Khan Academy® SAT Prep**
Create a personalized SAT study plan based on the questions you missed on the PSAT/NMSQT.

BAT® Don't forget!
Register to take the SAT ahead of college application deadlines in spring of junior year and fall of senior year.

NATIONAL MERIT SCHOLARSHIP CORPORATION

Your NMSC Selection Index Score
139

NMSC® uses a Selection Index score based on PSAT/NMSQT scores as an initial screen of students who enter its scholarship programs. The Selection Index score is double the sum of your Reading, Writing and Language, and Math Test scores.

Eligibility Information
You meet entry requirements for the 2024 National Merit Scholarship Program and your Selection Index score will be considered among 1.5 million program entrants.

Entry Requirements
Information you provided on your answer sheet:
High school student: **YES**
Year to complete high school and enroll full time in college: **2024**
Total years to be spent in grades 9–12: **4**

National Merit Scholarship Corporation
National Merit Scholarship Corporation (NMSC) conducts the National Merit Scholarship Program, an academic competition for recognition and college scholarships.
To designate students who qualify for recognition in its 2024 competition, NMSC will consider the 2023 PSAT/NMSQT Selection Index scores of some 1.5 million test takers (usually high school juniors) who meet program entry requirements. For more information, please visit: www.nationalmerit.org
If any of your responses to NMSC's "Entry Requirements" questions are inaccurate or there has been a change in plans that may affect program entry, write immediately to:
National Merit Scholarship Corporation
Attn: Scholarship Administration
1560 Sherman Avenue, Suite 200
Evanston, IL 60201-4897
Include your name and home address along with your high school name, address, and six-digit code number.

Ima B. Student 2023, 118-000

Your Question-Level Feedback

QUESTIONS OVERVIEW

The questions in your score report may not be in the same order as you saw on test day.

READING
47 Total Questions
21 Correct Answers

WRITING AND LANGUAGE
44 Total Questions
17 Correct Answers

MATH – CALCULATOR
26 Total Questions
1 Correct Answer

MATH – NO CALCULATOR
14 Total Questions
2 Correct Answers

MATH – CALCULATOR
31 Total Questions
15 Correct Answers

MATH – NO CALCULATOR
17 Total Questions
10 Correct Answers

MATH – CALCULATOR
7 Total Questions
0 Correct Answers

MATH – NO CALCULATOR
17 Total Questions
10 Correct Answers

MATH – CALCULATOR
7 Total Questions
0 Correct Answers

MATH – NO CALCULATOR
17 Total Questions
10 Correct Answers

MATH – CALCULATOR
7 Total Questions
0 Correct Answers

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17 Total Questions
10 Correct Answers

MATH – CALCULATOR
7 Total Questions
0 Correct Answers

MATH – NO CALCULATOR
17 Total Questions
10 Correct Answers

MATH – CALCULATOR
7 Total Questions
0 Correct Answers

MATH – NO CALCULATOR
17 Total Questions
10 Correct Answers

MATH – CALCULATOR
7 Total Questions
0 Correct Answers

MATH – NO CALCULATOR
17 Total Questions
10 Correct Answers

| READING | | | | WRITING AND LANGUAGE | | | | MATH – CALCULATOR | | | | MATH – CALCULATOR | | | |
|------------|---------|-------------|------------|----------------------|---------|-------------|------------|-------------------|---------|-------------|------------|-------------------|---------|-------------|------------|
| Question # | Correct | Your Answer | Difficulty | Question # | Correct | Your Answer | Difficulty | Question # | Correct | Your Answer | Difficulty | Question # | Correct | Your Answer | Difficulty |
| 1 A | ✓ | | | 1 D | ✓ | | | 1 B | ✓ | | | 15 C | ✓ | | |
| 2 B | ✓ | | | 2 B | ✓ | | | 2 A | ✓ | | | 16 B | ✓ | | |
| 3 B | ✓ | | | 3 C | ✓ | | | 3 B | ✓ | | | 17 D | ✓ | | |
| 4 B | ✓ | | | 4 C | ✓ | | | 4 D | ✓ | | | 18 B | ✓ | | |
| 5 C | ✓ | | | 5 B | ✓ | | | 5 B | ✓ | | | 19 C | ✓ | | |
| 6 D | ✓ | | | 6 B | ✓ | | | 6 A | ✓ | | | 20 B | ✓ | | |
| 7 B | ✓ | | | 7 A | ✓ | | | 7 B | ✓ | | | 21 B | ✓ | | |
| 8 A | ✓ | | | 8 B | ✓ | | | 8 C | ✓ | | | 22 D | ✓ | | |
| 9 D | ✓ | | | 9 A | ✓ | | | 9 A | ✓ | | | 23 D | ✓ | | |
| 10 A | ✓ | | | 10 D | ✓ | | | 10 D | ✓ | | | 24 C | ✓ | | |
| 11 D | ✓ | | | 11 D | ✓ | | | 11 D | ✓ | | | 25 B | ✓ | | |
| 12 D | ✓ | | | 12 B | ✓ | | | 12 A | ✓ | | | 26 D | ✓ | | |
| 13 D | ✓ | | | 13 C | ✓ | | | 13 B | ✓ | | | 27 D | ✓ | | |
| 14 A | ✓ | | | 14 C | ✓ | | | 14 C | ✓ | | | | | | |
| 15 C | ✓ | | | 15 D | ✓ | | | | | | | | | | |
| 16 B | ✓ | | | 16 B | ✓ | | | | | | | | | | |
| 17 D | ✓ | | | 17 B | ✓ | | | | | | | | | | |
| 18 B | ✓ | | | 18 A | ✓ | | | | | | | | | | |
| 19 A | ✓ | | | 19 B | ✓ | | | | | | | | | | |
| 20 C | ✓ | | | 20 C | ✓ | | | | | | | | | | |
| 21 B | ✓ | | | 21 A | ✓ | | | | | | | | | | |
| 22 D | ✓ | | | 22 A | ✓ | | | | | | | | | | |
| 23 B | ✓ | | | 23 C | ✓ | | | | | | | | | | |
| 24 D | ✓ | | | 24 D | ✓ | | | | | | | | | | |
| 25 C | ✓ | | | 25 C | ✓ | | | | | | | | | | |
| 26 B | ✓ | | | 26 A | ✓ | | | | | | | | | | |
| 27 B | ✓ | | | 27 A | ✓ | | | | | | | | | | |
| 28 A | ✓ | | | 28 B | ✓ | | | | | | | | | | |
| 29 D | ✓ | | | 29 D | ✓ | | | | | | | | | | |
| 30 B | ✓ | | | 30 C | ✓ | | | | | | | | | | |
| 31 D | ✓ | | | 31 D | ✓ | | | | | | | | | | |
| 32 A | ✓ | | | 32 B | ✓ | | | | | | | | | | |
| 33 C | ✓ | | | 33 D | ✓ | | | | | | | | | | |
| 34 A | ✓ | | | 34 D | ✓ | | | | | | | | | | |
| 35 A | ✓ | | | 35 D | ✓ | | | | | | | | | | |
| 36 C | ✓ | | | 36 B | ✓ | | | | | | | | | | |
| 37 B | ✓ | | | 37 C | ✓ | | | | | | | | | | |
| 38 C | ✓ | | | 38 A | ✓ | | | | | | | | | | |
| 39 C | ✓ | | | 39 C | ✓ | | | | | | | | | | |
| 40 C | ✓ | | | 40 D | ✓ | | | | | | | | | | |
| 41 B | ✓ | | | 41 D | ✓ | | | | | | | | | | |
| 42 B | ✓ | | | 42 A | ✓ | | | | | | | | | | |
| 43 A | ✓ | | | 43 C | ✓ | | | | | | | | | | |
| 44 A | ✓ | | | 44 B | ✓ | | | | | | | | | | |
| 45 A | ✓ | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 46 D | ✓ | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 47 C | ✓ | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |

psat.org/myscore

Go online for your full report

Questions and Answers

Strengths and Weaknesses

Personalized Practice

2023-PS-000

Understanding your PSAT answer sheet

Student must access it online via www.collegeboard.org

Approaching Benchmarks

Answer keys

Link to Khan Academy for FREE test prep! I strongly recommend.

National Merit Index: $2(\text{Reading} + \text{Writing} + \text{math}) = \text{Index}$

National Merit determined by state. Previous years in NC 218-222.

If a student didn't meet the benchmark, I highly suggest tutoring in that area!

Topics

- PSAT Results
- **College Admissions Updates**
- Testing
- Upcoming College Counseling Events
- College Lists
- Summer Activities
- Specialized Recruiting
- Resumes

New things on the College Admissions Landscape

Some schools are still “test optional” but not all. You should continue to test. ACT and SAT are the big two. CLT is a distant, but up-and-coming third.

Terminology:

Test Optional - it is the student’s option to share a test score. (UNC System, Liberty, WFU, etc.)

Test Required - the college requires the test (Florida System, GT, MIT, etc.)

Test Blind - the college will not consider a test score even if it is submitted (CA System, Dickinson College, etc.)

While applying to a college may be test optional, some schools use test scores in determining scholarships.

www.FairTest.org

Increasingly more schools are doing self-reported grades and test scores. Accuracy matters. Be sure to follow the instructions on the website.

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College Admissions Testing- see calendar in your folder

ACT: www.ACT.org

Four sections: Reading, writing, science, and math. Each section is worth 36 points. A 36 is a perfect score.

Strongly consider ACT if English > Math by 70 points on SAT or in general.

Single section retesting was on the drawing board before the pandemic, but has been put on hold.

SAT: www.collegeboard.org

Part of the SAT suite of assessments which include the PSAT, SAT, and AP Exams.

Two sections: EBRW and Math each worth 800 points. Scores are added together. A 1600 is a perfect score.

Strongly consider SAT if Math > English by 50 points on SAT or in general.

They discontinued the SAT II (aka SAT Subject Tests.)

SAT announced that they will be moving to digital exams effective 2024 in the USA.

CLT: www.cltexam.com

New, classical test which aligns well with a classical, Christian education.

Scores on a 1 – 120 scale. It is all digital. Growing college acceptance.

At this point, I do *not* recommend oscillating back and forth on tests. Pick one and stick with it.

College Admissions Testing cont.

Prep and Timing

- Don't go in cold to a test! Do test prep! Juniors, you are in your prime for college admissions testing! Make a plan and work it.
- Through ACT Academy, ACT offers some free test prep and other options.
- SAT offers Khan Academy for free and has Official SAT Guides for purchase.
- A list of Test Prep Tutors is available as a handout today or outside my office.
- Reminder, if you didn't meet the PSAT benchmark in math, get a tutor!
- Recommended timing-take the ACT or SAT at least once this spring. Retest as needed to get the score that supports your GPA or helps you reach your goal. Ideally you will wrap up testing before senior year.
- A free practice ACT is being offered by Princeton Review, January 21 – 29.
<https://secure.princetonreview.com/event?PSId=513880>

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Upcoming College Counseling Events

Mark your calendars!

- **Individual Junior Meetings** until March 2
<https://calendly.com/lsmithccscollegecounseling/60min>
Students must complete YouScience and the Rising Senior Survey in Scoir and parents need to complete the Brag Sheet prior to the meeting.
- Drop in **College Counseling Lunch and Learn** for students and parents, **January 25** and **February 3**, Commons Area during lunch.
- **College Admissions Panel is Wednesday, February 15 at 7 pm** in the Theater
Featuring: Anderson University, Clemson University, Queen's University of Charlotte, and NCSU.
- **Late Registration for AP Exams is February 10 to 27**
Signup information in the Knightly News. (\$165 including late fees. Additional fees apply if you are changing a current registration.)
- **Our Career Connection event is Tuesday, March 21.** Parents if you are interested in participating, please let Mrs. McGinnis know.
- **AP Exams are May 1 through May 12. All AP Exams will be on campus. Details in the Knightly News in Q4.** See College Board for dates and times.
- **College Essay Bootcamp July 17 - 21** taught by Mrs. Clarkson and Ms. Smith. It includes writing the Common App Essay and School Specific Essays. Signup via Knightly News in Q4 (\$265)

Individual Junior Meeting

Student must be present!

<https://calendly.com/lsmithccscollegecounseling/60min>

Please check with your teacher if you are missing class for the meeting.

Students: complete YouScience and your Rising Senior Survey prior to the meeting.

Parents: complete the Parent Brag sheet prior to coming in for the meeting.

If you are planning on attending college, have 5 to 8 schools that you are following in Scoir.

This personalized meeting is designed to help you get positioned well for “life after CCS”, which for most of you means college applications.

Junior Individual Meeting cont.

Other things to consider before your Individual Junior Meeting

Review your transcript. Make sure that it is accurate and reflects your CCS activities. If you have corrections or additions, make notes and turn into me at the meeting or in a folder outside my office. (Note: clubs from this year will be added at the end of the school year.)

Graduation requirements: have you taken a semester of art, music, and PE/sport?

Start the conversation about AP Classes for next year. Currently we offer AP Physics, AP Statistics, and AP Calculus AB. Registration for those will take place in the next couple of months.

College Lists, summer activities, etc.

Junior Individual Meeting cont.

Other things we will consider at the Individual Meeting

- We plan to continue offering Dual Credit Classes through Colorado Christian University
- Enrollment for those will be in the Fall
- Current offerings for seniors include American Literature, Physics, AP Calculus, Spanish 3 and 4, and Apologetics

Topics

- PSAT Results
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- **College Lists and Visits**
- Summer Activities
- Specialized Recruiting
- Resumes

College Lists and Visits

College is a match to be made, not a prize to be won

- Students should be following schools in Scoir.
- Students should have visited at least 3-5 schools. NCSU, Peace, Meredith, Shaw, Duke, UNC-CH, and Campbell are all nearby and a good place to start.
- Make your own college lists—do not use the same one that your best friend made. You have different gifts and talents.
- At this point, I suggest having a good mix of private, state, secular, and Christian schools. Some private colleges offer great academic scholarships which make them affordable.
- Most lunch-time college visits are held in the fall. We have the college panel in February that will let you compare four different schools.

College Visits

Questions to ask

- What are the top five majors, academic support, when you need to decide on a major, and any restrictions for selecting a major?
- What is your graduation rate, retention rate, percent of students working, in a grad school after graduation, and career counseling?
- Tell me about campus culture, Christian ministries, dorm life, weekend activities, percent of students who live off campus, campus safety, and Greek life.
- Why did the tour guide choose this college? If the tour guide could change anything about the school, what would it be? (If the answer is food in the cafeteria, ask for what else they would change.)
- Students, make notes after you visit a school on your phone, use our form, or a spreadsheet. Consider taking a picture or two to help you remember it. (Do not video that whole tour.)
- Take advantage of Open Houses. Ask to meet with students or professors who are in your potential department.
- If looking at a lot of colleges, create a spreadsheet to help keep track of visits, pros and cons, etc.

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Summer Activities and Volunteering Ideas

- Volunteer Activities-Dorcas Shop, Habitat for Humanity, local hospitals, YMCA, Miracle League, Teen Court, tutoring, etc.
- Mission trip or church camp.
- Jobs or self-employed.
- College Classes or Camps – explore potential majors or careers. Learn new skills. (NCSU Engineering Camp, Elon Emerging Journalism Program, etc.)
- Boys' State, Girls' State, Boy Scout High Adventure opportunities, Venture Scouts, Civil Air Patrol, etc.
- Possible goals: broaden your horizon, serve the community, serve the disadvantaged population, make money, learn a new skill, explore, etc.

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- Resumes

Specialized Recruiting

Pick up applicable handout at the front of the room

- Thinking about a United States Service Academy? Service academy summer session applications open and close in January.
- Do you want to play sports in college? Student athletes should register on the NCAA clearinghouse if interested in playing D1. Do you have a recruiting video? Are you signed up for ID camps?
- Are you interested in pursuing the arts in college? Have you started to create an art portfolio? Are you going to audition for music or theater?

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Resumes

- At the beginning of February, I will be in your English class to teach a unit on resumes.
- Students will begin creating them in Scoir. The polished, finished product will be done in Word or Google Docs.
- Resumes are very helpful for filling out college applications, applying for scholarships, and applying for jobs.

Conclusion

Action points:

- Decide on college admission testing and begin preparing so that you receive a score that supports your GPA and is helpful
- Sign up for your Individual Junior meeting
- Saves dates for College Counseling Events



THANK YOU

Cary Christian School College Counseling Presentation

PROVIDING AN EXCELLENT *classical* EDUCATION, FOUNDED UPON A *biblical* WORLDVIEW