



## Connecticut Administration of the SAT Frequently Asked Questions for Districts & Schools

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

Governor Dannel P. Malloy sought and won approval this year for a waiver from the U.S. Department of Education to use the SAT as the high school accountability measure for Connecticut in lieu of the 11<sup>th</sup> grade Smarter Balanced assessment. The switch to the SAT also satisfies the requirements of Connecticut Public Act No. 15-238, which states that effective in the 2015-16 school year students enrolled in Grade 11 should be administered a nationally recognized college readiness assessment that is approved by the State Board of Education and that measures essential and grade-appropriate skills in reading, writing and mathematics.

While the Connecticut SAT is the primary Grade 11 assessment for all students, the Connecticut Alternate Assessment will be administered to a small percentage of students with significant cognitive disabilities.

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

The three hour Connecticut SAT will be administered during the school day to all Grade 11 public school students on March 2, 2016. Make-ups will be administered on April 27, 2016. There will be no cost to districts for administration of the Connecticut SAT on these two dates. Both, the CSDE and each LEA are legally responsible to administer these assessments to all students.

### **What does the Connecticut SAT measure?**

The Connecticut SAT has two sections: Evidence-Based Reading and Writing and Mathematics. The Evidence-Based Reading and Writing section includes a Reading Test and a Writing and Language Test.

### **What are the changes in the redesigned SAT that debuts in March 2016?**

The Connecticut SAT focuses on the skills and knowledge that evidence shows are needed most for college and career success. It reflects what students are already learning in their classrooms in mathematics and English language arts with literacy focused on topics from science, history, and social studies. The vocabulary portion of the Connecticut SAT will focus on words that students use consistently in college and beyond. Additional information is available at <https://collegereadiness.collegeboard.org/>.

### **Are there specific instructions for setting up the school for administration of the Connecticut SAT?**

District Test Coordinators have been notified by the CSDE about the process to setup all schools/programs for testing in March. Each school will need an attending institution (AI) code, a test center number, as well as a person identified as the Test Center Supervisor, who will be



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responsible for managing all activities related to test day in each building/program. Students who have previously taken the PSAT/NMSQT, SAT, or AP exam will not have to register for the Connecticut SAT. Other students will register on paper in school before test day. Schools will receive directions on this process. Questions about the Connecticut SAT should be directed to Abe Krisst at [abe.krisst@ct.gov](mailto:abe.krisst@ct.gov) or Michelle Rosado at [michelle.rosado@ct.gov](mailto:michelle.rosado@ct.gov).

### **What do Connecticut parents or districts do if they've already ordered SAT for spring 2016?**

Since the CSDE will be providing the SAT for all public school students in Grade 11, districts will not need to purchase the SAT. Districts should look for more information in the coming weeks.

If parents or students have already registered for a Spring 2016 administration, they may contact the College Board Customer Service department at (866) 756-7346 for assistance if they choose to change their test date or request a refund.

### **What resources are provided to Connecticut educators to prepare for the Connecticut SAT?**

Beginning late 2015, CSDE will provide in-person and technology-based professional development and assistance for:

- Local test administrators, proctors, and technology coordinators.
- Teachers, students, and parents, to help them understand the redesigned SAT through [modules](#) about test content and test results.
- Postsecondary enrollment professionals, to show them how to use data and resources to inform admission and financial aid decisions.

The CSDE will be sending information about trainings for District Test Coordinators, Pupil Service Directors, and Counselors in the very near future.

### **Can students use calculators on the Connecticut SAT?**

A calculator will be allowed on one of two sections in the redesigned Connecticut SAT Math Test. Please read the [College Board's calculator policy](#) for specific information on which calculators can be used on test day.



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## What accommodations are students with disabilities and EL students permitted on the SAT?

Students	College Reportable Accommodations	Connecticut State-Allowed Accommodations for State Accountability
	<i>Used for accountability and college admissions</i>	<i>Used for accountability purposes only</i>
<b>Students with Disabilities</b>	Braille Booklets	Sign Language – test content
	Text-to-Speech for all test content (College Board MP3 audio)	Sign Language – student responses
	Large Print Booklet	
	Color Overlay	
	Noise Buffering	
	Magnification Device	
	Computer Response	
	Scribe	
	Speech-to-Text (College Board Assistive Technology)	
	Specialized Calculator	
	Abacus	
	Multiplication table	
	Time Extension	
	Separate Setting	
	American Sign Language (ASL) - test directions only	
Signed Exact English – test directions and test content		
<b>English Learners</b>	Written directions in Spanish, Arabic, Portuguese, Polish, Mandarin and Haitian-Creole	Time Extension
	Native Language Reader – test directions only	Bilingual Dictionaries - Word-to-word Translation



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### **What is the process to apply for accommodations for students with disabilities and EL students?**

The CSDE is committed to ensuring that students with disabilities and EL students can take the Connecticut SAT with the accommodations they need. There are two accommodations options for the Connecticut SAT. Option 1 is College Reportable Accommodations and Option 2 is Connecticut State Allowed Accommodations (SAA). Both options require entry on the College Board's Services for Students with Disabilities (SSD) Web site at [www.CollegeBoard.org/ssd](http://www.CollegeBoard.org/ssd). The CSDE will provide guidance on how to craft a request for accommodation. The guidance will outline the necessary information to be included in the three part request. SSD Coordinators should submit the accommodation requests at [www.CollegeBoard.org/ssd](http://www.CollegeBoard.org/ssd). To request an SSD Online account, complete the [SSD Coordinator Form](#) and fax it to College Board SSD at 866-360-0114. An access code to use with the [College Board professional account](#) will be provided within two days. For more information about accessing the account for the first time, see [How to Sign Up for SSD Online](#).

Any accommodations used on the Connecticut SAT must be approved through the College Board SSD process, even when the student receives these accommodations in school. If a student has previously been approved for an accommodation by the College Board it is not necessary to reapply unless there has been a change to the student's accommodation needs.

College Board will notify schools of approved accommodations for specific students; however, school staff can also use the SSD online system to track the status of a request.

### **What is the difference between a reportable score and a non-reportable score?**

A reportable score may be used to send to colleges for admissions purposes and for state accountability purposes. A non-reportable score may not be used to send to college for admissions purposes and will be used for state accountability purposes only.

### **What will be the score ranges for the SAT?**

The Connecticut SAT will be [scored](#) on a 400- to 1600-point scale. The Evidence-Based Reading and Writing section and the Mathematics section will each be scored on a 200- to 800-point scale. There will no longer be a penalty for wrong answers.

### **Can a student's scores from the Connecticut SAT be reported to colleges?**

Students who have an online SAT account can choose which SAT scores to report to colleges including the Connecticut SAT administration. 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.



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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 upon by the student/parent and the College Board. Scores will not be reported without express permission of the student/parent.

A student can elect to have their SAT score cancelled by completing the Cancel Scores form immediately after test administration (see College Board [Web site](#) for more info). If cancelled, colleges will not receive the scores from that particular administration, however, the student and state will still receive their scores.

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

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

### **Do Connecticut colleges and universities require an essay?**

The [College Board](#) has a list of colleges and universities that have established positions on whether they will require the SAT optional essay for admissions. Of the Connecticut colleges and universities that have been reported, only Yale University requires the optional essay.

**For additional information contact Michelle Rosado at [michelle.rosado@ct.gov](mailto:michelle.rosado@ct.gov).**