



September 1, 2023

Dear Parents/Guardians of Students in Grades 9, 10, and 11:

On Wednesday, October 11, 2023, the Preliminary Scholastic Assessment Test (PSAT) for grades 10 and 11 and the PSAT 9 for grade 9 will be administered at Rockville High School and districtwide in MCPS. The PSAT provides an important measure of each student's readiness for advanced coursework, college and careers, and preparation for future college readiness examinations. This year's test will be digital.

Grade 10 students are automatically enrolled for testing, and no payment is required. Every Grade 10 student is expected to participate, with the exception of non-diploma bound students and students in English Language Development (ELD, formerly ESOL) Levels 1 and 2.

Grade 11 students are encouraged to participate in this PSAT session to obtain additional SAT practice and participate in the National Merit Scholarship Qualifying Program. To be considered for these select merit scholarships and participate in the October 11th PSAT/NMSQT session, Grade 11 students must register and pay the \$15.25 fee via School Cash Online by Friday, 09/08/23. The test is optional for grade 11.

Grade 9 students may take the PSAT 8/9 for practice. In order to participate, grade 9 students must register and pay the \$13.25 fee via School Cash Online by Friday, 09/08/23. The test is optional for grade 9.

Directions for School Cash Online are on the back of this letter.

Students participating in testing on that day should plan to arrive at school by 7:30am for a 7:45am start. As the date approaches, the complete bell schedule and related activities for non-testing students will be shared, as will additional information for test-takers. In addition, time will be allotted for pre-administration for students to prepare answer booklets and complete an optional questionnaire.

We look forward to supporting your child in their participation in this year's PSAT School Day. For questions, please contact Ms. Jennifer Bado-Aleman, Assistant Principal, via email: Jennifer_Bado-Aleman@mcpsmd.org or phone: 240-740-6600.

Sincerely,

Ms. Rhoshanda Pyles Principal





Register for School Cash Online today: Directions to register and set-up accounts in the new system (including a PIN number) came to all MCPS parents in August. Search your email for SCOPinProcess@mcpsmd.org. It's fast, easy & free! Activate an account today so you will be notified via email and pay for your child(ren)'s school activity fees online.

How to register

How to add children to your account

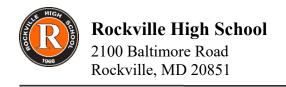
- Go to https://mcpsmd.schoolcashonline.com/ and click Register. Then, click the Green button "Use your MCPS Parent/Guardian Account"
 - Sign in with your MCPS Parent/Guardian Account login. If you haven't registered with it yet, follow these steps:
 - Click "Sign Up now"
 - Enter the email address you have on file at your child's school (e.g., ParentVUE email)
 - Click the "Send verification code" button
 - Enter your verification code from your email and click "Verify code"
 - Create your password for the account
 - Enter First and Last name in the appropriate fields
 - Click the "Create" button
 - Go back to
 https://mcpsmd.schoolcashonline
 .com and sign in with the email
 address on file and the password
 you created
- Answer "Yes" to receive email notifications of new school-related fees assigned to your student.

- Sign in to SchoolCash Online: https://mcpsmd.schoolcashonline.com/
- At the top of the page, navigate to My Account.
- From the dropdown menu, select My Students.
- Click to add a child:
 - o Choose your school from the list.
 - Enter your child's details, along with the PIN provided to you via email or mail.
 If you cannot find your student's PIN, please send an email to: communitytechsupport@mcpsmd.
 - Click Confirm.

org.

How to make a payment

- Select the item which you would like to purchase ("PSAT") & click Add to Cart.
- Once you have finished adding items to your cart, always review the cart.
- Click **Continue** to make a payment.





September 1, 2023

Dear Parents/Guardians of Grade 9-11 Students Participating in the Oct. 11th PSAT School Day:

On Wednesday, October 11, 2023, Montgomery County Public Schools (MCPS) and Rockville High School will administer the **PSAT to all Grade 10 students free of charge** (with the exception of non-diploma bound students and students in English Language Development Levels 1 and 2). **Grade 11 students will register and pay a \$15.25 test fee via SchoolCash Online if desiring to participate in the PSAT/NMSQT. Grade 9 students who wish to take the PSAT 8/9 will register and pay a \$13.25 test fee via School Cash Online. The PSAT provides an important measure of each student's readiness for advanced coursework, college and careers, and preparation for future college readiness examinations.**

Prior to PSAT administration, there is a two-part pre-administration session. **First**, to save time during the actual test administration, certain information about your child will be provided to the College Board, (the provider of the PSAT and SAT) in advance of the PSAT. The required information covers basic information (such as name, school, state, student ID, grade, gender, and date of birth) and is needed to identify your child's test and provide a score report.

Second, your child will have the opportunity to participate, with your consent, in the optional Student Data Questionnaire. The College Board gives students and families complete discretion regarding any voluntary information they provide as part of the Student Data Questionnaire. Information gathered is used for group reporting, for analysis to ensure that the exams are fair for all groups, to connect your child with potential colleges or scholarship opportunities, and for research. Read more about the Student Data Questionnaire below.

To provide consent for your child to participate in the optional Student Data Questionnaire, you must return the attached signed consent form to your child's English teacher by Tuesday, 09/12/23, before the school pre-administration session in October.

Whether or not you consent for your child to participate in the optional Student Data Questionnaire, grade 10 students and registered grade 9 and 11 students will still participate in PSAT School Day on Wednesday, October 11, 2023.

Your child's school counselor and other staff will be working individually with your student over the next several weeks to prepare for administration of the PSAT. If you have any further questions, please contact your child's school counselor or Ms. Jennifer Bado-Aleman, Assistant Principal via email:

Jennifer_Bado-Aleman@mcpsmd.org or phone: 240-740-6600.

Sincerely,

Ms. Rhoshanda Pyles Principal



Parent/Guardian Signature



PSAT CONSENT FORM - RHS (return to English Teacher by Tuesday, 09/12/23)

As part of the administration of the PSAT, your child will have the opportunity to participate, with your consent, in the optional Student Data Questionnaire. Your child's responses to all questions on the Student Data Questionnaire, other than the required registration questions, are optional as explained in the inserted copy of the PSAT Student Answer Sheet Instructions. The Questionnaire can help:

- Give counselors and college admission officers information to help your child plan for the future. The more information they have, the more assistance they can give to you.
- Provide information to the College Board that ensures the exam is a fair and accurate test for all students.
- Are used by the College Board for research and planning to improve our tests and services.
- Contribute—combined with responses of all other students taking the same exam—to an understanding of
 your graduating class. This lets colleges and universities deliver programs and opportunities to serve you and
 your classmates.

A primary benefit of completing the optional Student Data Questionnaire is to participate in Student Search Service, which is a program that connects your child to college and scholarship opportunities that reflect your child's interests. If you choose to permit your child to complete the optional Student Data Questionnaire, the data your child provides will be added to your child's College Board student record, even if you choose not to participate in Student Search Service.

MCPS has a data sharing agreement with the College Board for the administration of the PSAT. The College Board has assured MCPS that it only shares data with eligible colleges, universities, and scholarship and educational opportunity programs that sign a license agreement with the College Board. The College Board consistently monitors these organizations' use of student information for compliance. Individual student scores are not shared through Student Search Service, and you may withdraw your participation in Student Search Service at any time. To be clear, completion of the Student Data Questionnaire and participation in Student Search Service are optional and voluntary for all students. Learn more in the College Board Privacy Policy, which covers the Student Data Questionnaire, at www.collegeboard.org/privacy-policy

More information on the PSAT can be found here: https://collegereadiness.collegeboard.org/psat-nmsqt-psat-10

I provide consent for my child to complete the optional Student Data Questionnaire and participate in the College Board's Student Search Service, as part of the pre-administration process for the PSAT administration in MCPS.

Student Name (print)

Student ID #

GRADE

Parent/Guardian (print)

Date