

To: 11<sup>th</sup> Grade Students  
From: Ms. Kathy Klatka, Counselor

**PSAT Testing**  
**Wednesday, October 13**



The Preliminary SAT/National Merit Scholarship Qualifying Test (PSAT/NMSQT) will be offered to sophomores and juniors Wednesday, October 13, at Floyd County High School.

### Why take the PSAT/NMSQT?

So you can...

- ❖ Compare yourself with other college-bound students around the country.
- ❖ Find out what the SAT is like. (The PSAT/NMSQT includes actual SAT questions.)
- ❖ Assess your verbal, math, and writing skills.
- ❖ Forecast your SAT scores.
- ❖ Participate in the Student Search Service to get mail from colleges.

Students take the PSAT to assess their abilities and to enter the scholarship programs (junior year) administered by the National Merit Foundation. One of the biggest benefits in using the PSAT as a practice for the SAT I is that your test booklet will be returned to you with your results, including your responses and an analysis of the test items.

There will be 5 sections on the test: two 25-minute verbal sections, two 25-minute math sections (calculator permitted), one 30-minute writing test (multiple choice). The PSAT student bulletin will be issued to you so **study** the bulletin before testing and complete the sample test. You may bring an **APPROVED CALCULATOR** to testing.

The testing fee is \$13. Please come by the Guidance Office to pay by **Friday, September 17**.

*PSAT-test  
fee \$13  
Due by  
Sept.17*

We also have a limited number of fee waivers for **juniors**. Fee waivers can be used by juniors who are in Upward Bound, receive reduced/free lunches, or have other circumstances requiring assistance. See Ms. Klatka for more information.

# Important Stuff!

## College Admission Tests

- ❖ SAT 1—College admission test published by College Board. The test is divided into Verbal and Math sections. The average score is 1000 to 1010.
- ❖ SAT 11—Achievement tests published by College Board. These tests are usually NOT used for admission purposes, only for placement, but check individual college’s requirements. There are 20 different subject tests available. Not all tests are available on all dates. Three tests can be completed in one Saturday test date. Testing should be completed by December; some colleges will accept January test scores.
- ❖ ACT—College admission test published by American College Testing. The test is divided into 4 sections—English, Mathematics, Reading, Science, and an optional writing test. The average score is 21.

Most 4-year colleges require you to take tests for admission purposes. (Community Colleges generally do not—NRCC doesn’t). It will be your responsibility to check catalogs or college web pages for requirements of specific schools that are of interest to you. Most colleges want testing completed by December of your senior year.

## Testing Schedule: SAT’s and ACT

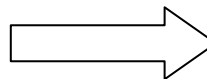
### **SAT I And SAT II Dates**

Testing date	Registration Deadline	Test Location	Scores by Internet	Scores Mailed
Oct. 9	Sept. 10	VT, Pulaski Co. HS	Oct. 28	~Nov. 6
Nov. 6	Oct. 8	Radford University	Nov. 25	~Dec. 4
Dec. 4	Nov. 5	VT, Pulaski Co. HS	Dec. 23	~Jan. 4
Jan. 22	Dec. 23	VT, Radford University	Feb. 10	~Feb. 19
March 12	Feb. 11	Pulaski Co HS	March 31	~April 9
May 7	April 8	Pulaski Co HS	May 26	~May 28
June 4	May 6	VT, Radford Univ.	June 23	~July 2

### **ACT Dates**

Testing date	Registration Deadline	Test Location
Oct. 23	Sept. 17	Cave Spring HS.
Dec. 11	Nov. 5	Hidden Valley, North Cross, Franklin Co HS
Feb. 12	Jan. 7	Franklin County HS
April 9	March 4	Hidden Valley HS
June 11	May 6	North Cross School

You will need this code when registering



**470850**

## **Junior Checklist....**

### **Fall**

- Ensure that you have all the necessary credits in order to graduate.
- Investigate careers. Think about the subjects you do well in and enjoy. Talk to others about their careers.
- Learn about colleges and/or trade schools. Go to web pages to view requirements and costs of schools. Look up the minimum acceptance requirements for freshmen at the colleges you are interested in (grade point average, SAT/ACT scores, high school subjects required). For an early look at your eligibility for financial aid, go to <http://www.fafsa4caster.ed.gov/F4CApp/index/index.jsf>. Listen for announcements about college representatives visiting FCHS.
- If you want to enter the work force directly after high school, learn about employment opportunities. Visit the Department of Labor's Occupational Outlook Handbook website ([www.bls.gov/oco](http://www.bls.gov/oco)).
- Register for the PSAT.
- Meet with your counselor to discuss future plans.
- Colleges are seeking for well-rounded individuals....volunteer, join clubs, etc.

### **Winter/Spring**

- If you took the PSAT in the fall, look closely at the score report and areas needing improvement. Use your test booklet to rework those questions that are incorrect. Ask for help if you don't understand.
- Take the SAT or ACT if these tests are required for your college. Colleges take the highest score for reading and math if the SAT or ACT is taken more than once. Many students take the test at least twice. Fee waivers are available if you meet the criteria.
- Attend college fairs and open houses. College web pages publicize dates of their open houses under prospective students tab.
- Prepare portfolios, audition tapes, or other evidence of talent if needed for your major.
- If you want to play Division I or II sports in college, register with the NCAA Clearinghouse ([www.ncaa.org](http://www.ncaa.org)).
- Start searching for scholarships, a great site is [www.fastweb.com](http://www.fastweb.com). The site collects information from you then emails you scholarships that you are eligible for.

### **Summer**

- Visit colleges that interest you and review requirements. Colleges offer tours so call in advance to learn when they are.