

Avoca Central School



PSAT Registration Form

I, _____ (parent/guardian) give my permission
to _____ (student) to take the PSAT in our Distance Learning
Room, on Wednesday, October 13, 2021. It will start at 8:00am and will run to approximately
11:00am. I understand this is an optional exam that will prepare my son/daughter for the SAT 1.

Parent Signature _____ Date _____

Student Signature _____ Date _____

Payment and Registration must be given to the Guidance Office by Tuesday, October 12, 2021. The fee for the 2021 PSAT is **\$16**. Checks or money orders are preferred, and should be made payable to **Avoca Central School**. Any student, who does not submit his/her money and registration by the date indicated, will **NOT** be admitted to the test under **ANY** circumstances.

Office Use Only:

Payment: check (# _____)
money order
cash

Mrs. Heidi Burns
Guidance Counselor

****(Please return this page BY October 6th, if you plan to take the test!)****

PSAT

What is it?

The Preliminary Scholastic Aptitude Test

- ... measures verbal and math reasoning skills important for college.
- ... gives students the opportunity to practice for the SAT 1.
- ... is the qualifier for the National Merit Scholarship.

What to bring?

It is strongly recommended that students take a calculator to the test even if they don't think they will use it. Students should, however, feel comfortable with the calculator they bring.

You also need to bring #2 Pencils.

How much does the test cost?

The fee for taking the **2021 PSAT** is **\$16**. If you have any questions, please contact Mrs. Burns, in the Guidance Office.

What does it test?

Critical Reading

- The Critical Reading sections of the PSAT measure the ability to understand and analyze written material. Since all Critical Reading questions are multiple-choice, incorrect answer choices on this section carry a .25-point penalty.
- There are two 25-minute Critical Reading sections, each of which consists of 24 questions. Together, the two sections contain a total of 13 sentence completion questions and 35 reading comprehension questions, for a total of 48 questions.
- Sentence completion questions consist of a sentence that contains one or two blanks. The correct answer choice contains the words or phrases that can be substituted into those blanks to best complete the intended meaning of the sentence.
- Reading comprehension questions consist of a passage of up to 850 words long, followed by a series of questions that test your understanding of that passage.

Math

The Math sections of the PSAT measure the ability to reason quantitatively, solve mathematical problems, and interpret data presented in graphical form. These sections focus on four areas of mathematics that are typically covered in the first three years of American high school education:

- Arithmetic
- Algebra and Functions (but *not* 3rd year level math that may appear on the new SAT)
- Geometry and Measurement
- Data Analysis, Statistics and Probability

There are two 25-minute Math sections on the PSAT. One consists of 20 multiple-choice questions; the other consists of 8 multiple-choice questions and 10 grid-in questions (28 multiple-choice and 10 grid-in total). Either section can be the first Math section to appear on the test.

Grid-in questions require test-takers to enter answers into a special grid on their score sheets. The grid can hold only four places and can accommodate only positive numbers and zero. Answers that are not integers may be entered either as fractions or as decimals (though mixed numbers must be converted to improper fractions). There is no penalty for incorrect answers on grid-in questions.

Students are permitted (and encouraged) to bring a calculator for the Math sections of the PSAT. Approved calculators include four-function calculators, scientific calculators, and graphing calculators. Calculators that require an outlet or make noise are prohibited, as are calculators that have an electronic writing pad or typewriter-style keypad. Laptop computers are also prohibited.

Writing Skills

Writing Skills are tested in a single 30-minute section that always appears as the fifth section of the PSAT. Questions on this section measure the ability to recognize and conform to the conventions of standard written English. Unlike the SAT, the PSAT does not have an essay. All Writing Skills questions are multiple-choice (and thus carry a .25-point penalty for each incorrect answer).