

End-of-Year Counselor Newsletter

We'd like to wish you, your family, and your school community a happy holiday season. We're thankful for your partnership and all that you do for students.

SHARE YOUR FEEDBACK

Please take our brief, two-question survey to help us improve our newsletter for your needs in the new year. Thank you in advance!

[Take the Survey](#)

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

Join Us for Our Upcoming Counselor Webinars

"Counselor's Guide to the AP Capstone Diploma™ Program," January 11, 1 p.m. ET

"Counselor's Guide to AP® Computer Science Principles," January 19, 1 p.m. ET

[Register Now](#)

2021 On-Demand Webinars

Don't forget! If you couldn't make it to one of our 2021 offerings, all webinars are recorded and available for viewing on-demand at your convenience after the live events. This includes:

- Fall 2021 Monthly Webinars
- 2021 Counselor Summer Institute

- 2021 Counselor Workshops

[View All Events](#)

New Counselor Modules Are Here!

This series will provide professional development for new counselors in the following categories: counselor tasks and techniques, college advising, and College Board programs and services.

[Register Now](#)

Digital Divide Webinar

Our recent policy and practice discussion focused on how federal covid relief funds are being deployed to keep students connected is now available on-demand.

Hear from district leaders about the creative approaches they've taken to provide online access for all students.

[How Schools Are Ending the Digital Divide](#)

Password: Access4@ll

SAT SUITE OF ASSESSMENTS

Weekend SAT

Encourage your juniors to [register now](#) for the March 12, 2022, SAT®. The earlier they register, the more time they'll have to prepare on [Official SAT Practice](#) on Khan Academy®.

In-School Assessments

PSAT/NMSQT® and PSAT™ 8/9 scores are now available. Encourage students to [create a College Board account](#) and log in to view their scores. Their score report unlocks personalized study plans to prepare for the SAT and delivers college and career choice tools.

Don't forget, we're no longer mailing score reports to schools. Visit and bookmark our [counselor resources website](#) to access webinars, handouts, email/newsletter templates, sample social media posts, videos, and walk-through modules. For quick access, check out these resources to support your students:

- [The 2021 PSAT/NMSQT Score Report: A Pathway to Success](#) (webinar)
- [Accessing PSAT/NMSQT Scores](#) (.pdf/805 KB)
- [Using PSAT/NMSQT Scores](#) (.pdf/779 KB)
- [Using PSAT/NMSQT Reporting Tools](#) (.pdf/954 KB)
- [Understanding Roster Reports for the PSAT/NMSQT](#) (.pdf/1.02 MB)
- [Parent Email Template](#) (.pdf/176 KB)

Ordering is open for spring 2022 SAT School Day and PSAT 8/9 and PSAT™ 10 assessments. Visit the [test ordering page](#) to get started.

AP

Increase Access to AP with New Funding in California

The California State Legislature recently appropriated \$400 million to increase the number of students graduating from high school who are eligible to enroll at the University of California and California State University campuses. The A-G Completion Improvement Grant Program provides funding to public schools to expand access to qualifying A-G courses for college admissions. All AP and Pre-AP® courses are A-G courses, so this funding may be used for:

- [AP Exam fees](#) for low-income students
- Professional learning for your AP educators, like this new workshop: [Achieving Equity in AP](#)
- Expanding your AP course offerings, like adding [AP SeminarTK](#), which is accepted as an English credit in your state
- Expanding or starting the [Pre-AP Program](#) to give more students the opportunity to develop skills needed for AP and college-level coursework

To utilize this funding, district plans must be submitted and approved by your local school board by April 1, 2022.

View this [on-demand webinar](#) for school and district leaders (**Access Passcode:** CBA-G2021!).

Help Students Reach Their Potential

If your school participates in PSAT-related assessments, remember to use AP Potential™ to plan course offerings and schedules for next year. Updates have recently been made to the tool based on fall assessment testing.

New for this year: AP Seminar is now included in AP Potential

recommendations.

[Learn more](#) about how to use this powerful resource.

BIGFUTURE

College Board Opportunity Scholarships Are Now BigFuture Scholarships!

Beginning in January 2022, BigFuture™ Scholarships will award over **\$3 million in scholarships to more than 4,000 students** in the class of 2023.

Major changes for the class of 2023:

- **No sign-up is necessary.** Juniors automatically earn entries into monthly drawings for \$500 or \$40,000 by logging in to their College Board accounts and completing one of the qualifying steps on BigFuture. No additional action is required. Students can opt out at bigfuturescholarships.org/opt-out.
- **Two \$40,000 BigFuture scholarships will be awarded monthly.** Every month, BigFuture will award two \$40,000 scholarships and hundreds of \$500 scholarships to the class of 2023 between January 2022 and February 2023. The more steps students complete, the more chances to win.
- **Early action = more chances at scholarships.** Students can earn a maximum of one entry per step they complete. Students will be entered into monthly drawings, beginning in the month they completed the steps. For example, a student who built a college list in January 2022 will be entered into the drawing at the end of January and reentered for other \$500 drawings for building a college list until June 30, 2022, and all remaining \$40,000 drawings through February 28, 2023.

Learn more at [BigFuture Scholarships homepage](#) and by watching our December webinar, [College Board Opportunity Scholarship Updates for Counselors](#).

In January, look for a new user experience on BigFuture that guides students through steps to explore careers, plan for college, and pay for college.

SCHOLARSHIP PARTNERS

Encourage Students to Apply to Open Scholarships

The scholarship opportunities below have upcoming deadlines, so encourage your seniors to apply to these programs today!

- **Ron Brown Scholar Program (RBSP)**

RBSP awards \$10,000 each year to the most talented and economically challenged high school seniors who demonstrate a keen interest in public service, community engagement, business entrepreneurship, and global citizenship. Applicants must be Black/African American. [Learn more and apply.](#) **Application closes: January 9, 2022**

- **The Jackie Robinson Foundation (JRF)**

JRF Scholars receive grants of up to \$30,000 over four years to complement the financial aid they receive from their colleges or universities. In addition, Scholars attend JRF's annual four-day Mentoring and Leadership Conference in New York City and other regional events throughout the year. [Learn more and apply.](#) **Application closes: January 12, 2022**

- **APIA Scholars**

APIA Scholars provides scholarships to qualified students of Asian and Pacific Islander heritage pursuing an undergraduate degree at a U.S.-accredited college or university. Scholarships range from one-time \$2,500 awards to multi-year \$20,000 awards. [Learn more and apply.](#) **Application closes: January 26, 2022**

CUSTOMER SERVICE QUICK TIPS

PSAT-Related Assessments

Q: How do I access the K-12 Portal?

If you've already used the portal, [sign in to access scores](#). If you haven't used it yet, you'll need two things:

1. A College Board professional account. If you don't have one, [create an account now](#).
2. Permission from your institution's access manager. Every school, district, and state has an access manager.

After you create a College Board account, [sign in to the score reporting portal](#). If you haven't been granted access yet, follow the links and we'll tell you who to contact.

If you are an access manager, learn about [Granting Access and Assigning Roles](#).

For more, visit our [portal help page](#).

AP

Q: How do I create an Exam Only section?

Instructions can be found in the AP Coordinator's Manual, Part 1, on pages 64-65. You'll need to create an exam only section if your school administers AP Exams to students who aren't enrolled in a course at your school, such as:

- Independent/self-study students attending your school who want to take an exam for a course in which they're not enrolled.
- Students who attend another school but want to test at your school.
- Homeschooled students who will be testing at your school.
- Virtual school students who will be testing at your school.

Note: Only AP coordinators can create exam only sections; teachers can't create these sections.

Q: When is the last day I can make changes to my school's exam order?

March 15, 2022, 11:59PM ET.