

Lesson Plan: Understanding PSAT 8/9 Scores

Classroom/Group Guidance Activity

Grades 8 and 9

Time Suggested: 50 minutes

The PSAT 8/9 tests the same skills and knowledge as the SAT®, PSAT/NMSQT®, and PSAT™ 10—in a way that makes sense for eighth and ninth graders. It measures what they're already learning, shows them whether they're on track for college, and lets them know where they need improvement. That means students have time to tackle these areas long before they take the SAT.

This lesson plan is designed to help you review PSAT 8/9 scores and reports with your students. It's particularly useful if your students log in to their College Board online accounts to get hands-on experience as you lead them through the online reports and resources.

Student Objectives

1. Students will view their scores in one of two ways:
 - a. By accessing their online score reports through their College Board accounts to understand their scores and each section of the report.
 - b. By reviewing their paper score reports to understand their scores and each section of the report.
2. Students over 13 can share their scores with Khan Academy® to create a personalized practice experience.

Before You Begin

Determine whether students will review their online or paper reports.

- To review scores online, students need to log in or create a College Board account.
- To review scores using paper score reports, you'll need to give each student a copy of their report.

Materials Needed

To view the newly designed online score reports, students need:

- A computer or smartphone with an internet connection to access their accounts at studentscores.collegeboard.org
- An email address to create a free College Board account or to get help logging in.
- [Tour the Newly Designed Online Student Score Report](#)

To review paper score report:

- [Sample PSAT 8/9 Score Report](#)

To share Khan Academy Practice Information:

- [How to Link Your College Board and Khan Academy Accounts](#)

Steps

1. Make sure students have access to their online or paper score report.
2. Review the [purpose of PSAT-related assessments](#) and how they benefit students' academic preparation and college success.
3. Share the presentation [Using Your PSAT 8/9 Scores to Prepare for College](#)
4. After obtaining an online or paper score report:
 - a. Show students where they'll find their **scores** and what they mean, and give them information about **percentiles** and **college readiness benchmarks**.
 - b. Identify the **Skills Insight™** section and explain how it shows student strengths and recommends steps to improve skills.
 - c. Review the **Questions and Answers** section (with online answer explanations) and explain how it helps identify patterns of incorrect answer choices.
 - d. Provide information about **AP Potential™** and how it identifies the AP® courses students are likely to succeed in.
 - e. Tell students about **Official SAT Practice on Khan Academy**. If students age 13 and over are viewing their online score reports, show them how to connect their Khan Academy and College Board accounts to get personalized practice recommendations.
 - f. Tell students about the [College Board Career Finder](#) exploration tool that explores careers and majors that align with their interest. They can also hear from people with different jobs and backgrounds, and create and share a personalized plan.
 - g. Help students use their preferences, interests and PSAT 8/9 scores to explore colleges, majors, and careers.
5. Visit [satpractice.org](#) to create an account and log in to Khan Academy.
 - a. Click the button that asks if they want to connect their accounts.
 - b. Go to collegeboard.org, log in, and click **Send** to connect accounts and send their test scores to Khan Academy.

Supplemental Resources for Counselors

- [Learn more about PSAT 8/9](#)
- Flyer: [PSAT 8/9 for Educators](#)
- Educator brief: [Supporting Students Using Official SAT Practice on Khan Academy](#)
- [Using Your PSAT 8/9 Scores to Increase College Readiness.](#)