

PSAT

Dear OVCA Students,

The counseling department would like to make you aware of an upcoming opportunity to participate in the PSAT 10. Your local high school will choose a date to administer this exam between October 19 (Primary) or November 2 (Alternative) (OVCA is not administering the exam, you will work with your local high school to participate as an outside tester) **Participation is not mandatory.** You are being sent this information because you are eligible to participate if desired.

### What is the PSAT 10?

The PSAT 10 is the same test as the PSAT/NMSQT but is offered in the spring semester. It is an excellent opportunity for practice but will not allow you to be considered for the National Merit Scholar Program. You must participate in the PSAT/NMSQT your junior year to be considered for the program. The Preliminary SAT/National Merit Scholarship Qualifying Test (PSAT/NMSQT), cosponsored by the College Board and the National Merit Scholarship Corporation, is an important **first step toward college**. Test results and their accompanying analysis are valuable tools that can help prepare students for the SAT® and education opportunities beyond high school.

### Who participates and why?

Each year, more than 3.5 million high school juniors, sophomores, and younger students take the PSAT/NMSQT to:

- **Prepare for the SAT**
- **Enter competitions for scholarships** (for more information, go to [Scholarship and Recognition Programs](#))
- **Receive information from colleges:** (for more information, go to [Student Search Service®](#))
- **Begin college and career planning**
- **Help assess academic skills necessary for college-level work**

The PSAT/NMSQT is the qualifying test for National Merit Scholarship Corporation's scholarship and recognition programs. Test-takers also receive **My College QuickStart™**, a free personalized college planning tool that includes access to **MyRoad™**, the College Board's online majors, college, and career exploration program.

### Did you know?

In 2013, 56 percent of PSAT/NMSQT test-takers were sophomores or younger students. Younger test-takers have more time to develop the skills reported on [Score Report Plus](#) that they need to improve to succeed in high school and college. Students who take the test as sophomores need to take it again as juniors to qualify for [National Merit scholarship programs](#).

### How do I sign up?

Contact your local school high school to request the opportunity to participate as an outside tester. It is best to speak directly with the school counselor. Share with the counselor you are a student at OVCA and give them our CEEB code, 372541.

**Is there a fee?**

Yes, there is a minimum charge of \$15. Schools may elect to add an additional fee to cover administration costs.

**Who should I notify once I sign up?**

Please [CLICK HERE](#) to complete a brief survey once you have signed up through your local school district.

**Want to practice for FREE?**

[CLICK HERE](#) try out sample questions and take a paper/pencil practice test.