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ARSENIO ROMERO, PH.D.  
SECRETARY OF PUBLIC EDUCATION

MICHELLE LUJAN GRISHAM  
GOVERNOR

August 7, 2024

**MEMORANDUM**

**TO:** Superintendents, Principals, Charter School Administrators, State-Supported School Administrators, and Bureau of Indian Education Administrators

**FROM:** Amanda DeBell, Deputy Secretary of Teaching, Learning, and Innovation

**RE:** PSAT/NMSQT for 10<sup>th</sup> Grade Students 2024-2025

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The New Mexico Public Education Department (NMPED) will pay for all New Mexico public school 10<sup>th</sup>-grade students to take the [Preliminary Scholastic Aptitude Test and National Merit Scholarship Qualifying Test](#) (PSAT/NMSQT) assessment during the testing window of October 1-31, 2024. Participation in the PSAT/NMSQT is voluntary, and each school and district can determine participation.

Schools will order their tests online through the PSAT/NMSQT College Board exam ordering site and complete the remittance form online after testing, but the cost for all New Mexico 10<sup>th</sup>-grade public school students will be directly billed to and paid by the NMPED. To take advantage of this opportunity and place your order, visit the [PSAT/NMSQT coordinator/ordering site](#).

The benefits of student participation in the PSAT/NMSQT include:

- The PSAT provides individual students with [Advanced Placement \(AP\) Potential](#) reports, which can guide their selection of AP courses and CTE programs of study.
- The PSAT provides students with an adaptive practice study plan tailored to each student's strengths, using official test materials and supported by [Khan Academy](#) resources to practice for the SAT.
- The PSAT/NMSQT is aligned with the Common Core State Standards. Using the [Online Reporting Tool for Educators](#) to access rich data reports showing students' challenges and Khan Academy for personalized practice, students can experience greater success in the classroom and on state assessments.

- Historically, 11<sup>th</sup>-grade students could receive PSAT/NMSQT fee waivers. However, beginning with the 2023-24 school year, low-income support is being extended to all assessments. Schools administering PSAT/NMSQT will receive a price adjustment twice their poverty rate percentage. Because New Mexico pays for 11<sup>th</sup> and PSAT/NMSQT SAT School Day for 10<sup>th</sup> grade, schools will also be eligible for the multi-assessment price adjustment. The list price of the PSAT/NMSQT is \$18. Your school's actual price can be seen in your [Test Ordering System \(SSOR\)](#).
- The SAT suite uses a common score scale, providing assessment feedback to help educators and students monitor growth and identify improvement areas.

School PSAT coordinators should place their orders online. The [deadline to order assessments](#) for the digital PSAT/NMSQT is based on when you plan to begin testing your students. You'll be asked to provide your intended testing date in [SSOR](#). You can update your order as many times as necessary until the deadlines listed below:

<b>If you plan to begin testing the week of:</b>	<b>The deadline to place your SSD Requests</b>	<b>The deadline to submit orders in SSOR</b>
October 1, 2024	August 12, 2024	August 26, 2024
October 7, 2024	August 19, 2024	September 3, 2024
October 14, 2024	August 26, 2024	September 9, 2024
October 21, 2024	September 3, 2024	September 17, 2024
October 28, 2024	September 9, 2024	September 23, 2024

With so many benefits for schools and students, we hope to see all New Mexico students take advantage of this opportunity. Please help make sure your students have access.

### **Important Contact Information**

[PSAT/NMSQT coordinator/ordering](#)

PSAT/NMSQT helpline: 888-477-PSAT (7728)

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