

Middlesex School Fall Standardized Testing Overview

Below, please find an overview of standardized testing recommendations and plans for seniors, juniors, and sophomores for the fall.

Please be in touch with the College Office with any questions.

Seniors

ACT testers

Seniors boarding students taking the ACT in the fall should be sure to register for the September and/or October test dates at Newton North High School ASAP. Day students should register ASAP at a test center close to their home. All ACT testers should let their counselor know if they are taking the ACT again, and at which test center.

SAT testers

While some seniors will be taking the August 26th SAT near their home (registration closed on July 28th), there is an October 7th SAT test date that will be offered at Middlesex School. We also offer the SAT on November 4th at Middlesex, and seniors should check if the colleges they intend to apply with early applications will accept the November test date.

Juniors

Diagnostic Testing

We sent all rising juniors home for the summer with a diagnostic testing packet with practice ACT and SAT tests, answer sheets, and a survey about their testing experience. It is helpful for each junior's college process if they complete these tests and send them to Advantage Testing before the school year starts. If juniors have already identified which test they want to focus on, please let a college counselor know. If you can't locate the email regarding diagnostic testing, please email Sam Bigelow at sbigelow@mxschool.edu.

PSAT Day

Wednesday, October 11th, Middlesex School will offer the PSAT, a preliminary standardized test offered as a precursor to the SAT, which all juniors took in their sophomore year. Juniors are offered the option to sit for the PSAT or to take a practice SAT or ACT. Top performers in the PSAT will be potentially eligible for National Merit Scholarship consideration, but juniors may also choose to use this day as a chance to solidify which test (SAT or ACT) they hope to focus on or to further their preparation for their chosen test. For more information on the National Merit Scholarship program, please visit [this link](#).

Testing Schedule and the new Digital SAT

While each junior's testing schedule will be individually catered to their process, ACT testers typically take the February and April ACT at Newton North High School and SAT testers typically take the December SAT at Middlesex and the March SAT near their home (as MX is closed for Spring Break).

This year, the College Board is moving to a fully digital SAT which they will roll out in March of 2024. Students in the Class of 2025 will have the opportunity to take the current version of the paper-and-pencil SAT in their junior fall and winter, and the March SAT will be the first test date with the digital format. The change in the test is primarily in how it is delivered, not in the content. The math content will not change, and verbal content will remain largely the same with shorter reading comprehension passages. We have been coordinating with Advantage Testing to ensure that all of our students will be fully prepared for

the digital SAT. The college office does not anticipate this change having an impact on student testing results. What appears to be a major shift will barely be noticed by our students.

Sophomores

PSAT Day

Wednesday, October 12th, Middlesex School will offer the PSAT, a preliminary standardized test offered as a precursor to the SAT, which all sophomores will take. All sophomores are automatically registered through the College Office. As a sophomore, the PSAT is purely practice, with no preparation necessary. Scores will be available in December and will only be available to families, the College Office, and the Academic Office. For more information regarding the PSAT, please visit [this link](#).

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