CollegeBoard

College Board Guide to Implementing the Redesigned SAT®

Installment 1:
Implementing the New Data Layout for SAT and
SAT Subject Tests™ Electronic Score Reports

July 2014

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Dear Colleague,

Welcome to the first installment of the *College Board Guide to Implementing the Redesigned SAT®*. This guide is one tool resulting from our work to support your preparations for the redesigned SAT by providing the information and resources you need to ensure a smooth transition for your campus and your students.

This first guide focuses on implementing the revisions to the scores and the resulting changes in the Electronic Data Layout for SAT and SAT Subject Tests™ Score Reports on your campus. We are providing the Electronic Data Layout as well as information about implementation so that you will have ample time to plan for changes on your campus before **we switch to the new data layout in October 2015 in support of the first redesigned SAT launch in spring of 2016.**

Please note: The layout, while close to final, may have some changes in the coming months to solidify code values and add additional data points. To best support your planning, we have inserted placeholders, or filler fields, in the enclosed layout. If we add additional data points, the overall layout of the file will not change significantly.

We will continue to provide implementation resources and training throughout the implementation process, including:

- Regular publications with tools and tips to help you begin adjustments to campus systems.

- Workshops and resources to help you plan and make sure your campus is ready.

- Ready-to-use slides and talking points you can use to help faculty and administration, college counselors, and prospective families understand the impact of these changes.

- Support from College Board regional staff.

The plans for upcoming installments of the guide will cover the topics you have told us are your highest priorities in the course of our discussions with hundreds of leaders from higher education institutions:

- Changes to the SAT.

- Plans to preserve predictive validity.

- Concordance tables and when they'll be available.

- How to communicate changes with students, parents, and campus colleagues.

Please note there may be revisions and additions as we continue our work to research and refine elements of the assessments. We are currently engaging members and enrollment leaders with an unprecedented level of transparency on assessment development. As a result, some information is being released as plans are being made. As always, the most up-to-date, official information for enrollment leaders can be found at **deliveringopportunity.org/highered**.

We know that in times of change there is a more significant need for information. We on the College Board team look forward to working with you and your colleagues on higher education campuses across the country in order to ensure that more students can access the opportunities they have earned.

Sincerely,

Cynthia B. Schmeiser
Chief of Assessment
The College Board

This guide, the first in a series, is divided into two major sections: a calendar of key milestones and major campus activities to prepare for use of the redesigned SAT® between now and fall 2018, and a detailed checklist for campuses to use to plan for the technical and operational implementation of the new scores and Electronic Data Layout.

Section 1 — The Redesigned SAT® Implementation Timeline

This high-level timeline of key milestones and major campus activities can serve as a guide for your campus as you plan to integrate the changes brought by the redesign of the SAT. Planning ahead will help make the transition more effective for your students and for your campus colleagues.

Section 2 — Implementing the New Electronic Data File — Be Ready for October 2015

Beginning in October 2015, electronic SAT score reports will be sent using the new Electronic Data Layout. To be ready to make the transition successfully, campuses will need to begin planning now. You can use the checklist in this guide to help you get started, to identify what you need to know about the redesign of the SAT, and to identify key considerations and decisions along the way.

Included with this guide is a best practices white paper, "Preparing Your Student Information System for the Redesigned SAT," from AACRAO, written in consultation with the College Board. The checklists for implementing the new electronic data layout reflect the best practices detailed in this white paper.

This guide is best used in conjunction with the information and resources for higher education found at www.deliveringopportunity.org/highered. Be sure to sign up for updates. This website will always be your best source for the most recent information and resources available.

Go to deliveringopportunity.org/highered to access:

- An overview of the rationale for the changes to the exam.

- Information on how the score report will provide admission officers with a deeper profile of student readiness for college-level work.

- Details on how students will be able to demonstrate their writing proficiency.

- Background on our strong foundation for validity, plans for the release of concordance tables, and the link to a PDF of the full test specifications.

- Plans and timelines for delivering key information needed, including file formats, IT vendor collaboration, and concordance tables.

- Tools including slides for internal and external meetings, sample content for websites, blogs, and messaging guidance.

- Timelines with key dates that will be updated as specific details are subject to change and information about our ongoing revision and research processes.

- An overview of the involvement of higher education leaders in the planning and implementation of the changes.

Note:
The College Board intends for you to use this guide in conjunction with advice and guidance that you receive from your technical personnel and/or consultants, based on your specific system configuration. Although every effort has been made to ensure accuracy, the College Board will not be held responsible for any loss or damage caused by errors, omissions, misprints, or misinterpretation of the contents contained in this guide.

Section 1: Redesigned SAT® Implementation Timeline and Checklist

College Board Activities

Suggested Campus Activities

2013

Winter

Spring — **2013:** College Board listening tour. Test development and research.

Summer

Fall

2014

Winter

Spring — **Spring 2014:** SAT Redesign announcement; release of Higher Education Toolkit and Full Test Specifications.

Summer — **Summer 2014:** Begin implementation of the new Data File Layout and train staff on SAT revisions.

Fall — **Fall 2014:** Identify campus uses of SAT scores and prepare for conversations with key constituents. Begin reviewing sample electronic score report data from the College Board, in preparation for implementation and testing.

2015

Winter — **Winter/Spring 2015:** Develop language for admission and scholarship publications.

Spring

Summer — **Summer 2015:** Finalize technical implementation and learn about concordances; train staff on using scores in making admission decisions.

Fall — **Fall 2015:** First redesigned PSAT/NMSQT® administered; first data load for SAT using the new data layout. Plan for first order of College Board Search using scores from the redesigned PSAT/NMSQT.

2016

Winter

Spring — **Winter/Spring/Summer 2016:** First redesigned SAT offered and first scores received on campus. College Board Search tools updated. First search orders received using redesigned PSAT/NMSQT.

Summer

Fall — **Fall 2016:** Use redesigned SAT to start to make decisions for students applying as freshmen for fall 2017.

2017

Winter — **Winter/Spring/Summer 2017:** Use redesigned SAT for admission, scholarships, placement, and other campus decisions.

Spring

Summer

Fall — **Fall 2017:** Create first enrollment reports and trend analysis using redesigned SAT.

2018

Winter

Spring

Summer

Fall — **Fall 2018:** Participate in first comprehensive study of predictive validity of redesigned SAT.

2013 All year

College Board listening tour
Test development and research

- College Board higher education listening tour and follow-up meetings with more than 300 colleges.

- College Board consultation with SAT Committee and Higher Education Working Group.

- Test development and validity research and testing (ongoing).

2014 Spring

SAT Redesign announcement
Release of Higher Education Toolkit and Full Test Specifications

⬭ College Board Activities:

- March 5 — College Board announced a renewed commitment to delivering opportunity for all students including the redesigned SAT. Resources made available include a toolkit of information and resources specific to higher education enrollment leaders.

- April 16 — College Board released complete test specifications.

- Campus survey gathered technical information to support implementation.

- Tools specific to K–12 leaders added on the website.

✎ Suggested Campus Activities:

Prepare for questions you will receive from students, families, counselors, and campus colleagues. (It is not too late to catch up.)

- ☐ Register to receive regular updates on the redesign at **deliveringopportunity.org**.

- ☐ Understand the rationale for and major changes to the SAT, including the College Board's Delivering Opportunity Agenda (see Appendix A).

- ☐ Understand the key changes to the SAT (See Appendix A).

- ☐ Review sample questions.*

- ☐ Know the specific changes to test scores and structure.*

*All information available at deliveringopportunity.org

> We started the work of assessment redesign by consulting with more than 300 enrollment leaders, representing a broad cross section of higher education institutions, through the following:
>
> - The Higher Education Working Group, representing enrollment leaders from across the country.
>
> - One-on-one interviews on campuses across the country.
>
> - Group meetings with College Board members, Trustees, and other stakeholders.
>
> - Online surveys sent via email and on our Web properties.

For access to the complete test specification document and answers to additional questions, including accommodations for students with disabilities, use of calculators, validity research, and fee waivers, go to **deliveringopportunity.org**.

2014 Summer
TO DO NOW

Begin planning the implementation of the new Electronic Data Layout and train staff on SAT revisions.

College Board Activities:

- Release technical specifications for data layout to campus enrollment and campus IT leaders.

- Communicate changes to the Electronic Data Layout directly to major IT vendors. (A preliminary Electronic Data Layout is enclosed with this guide.)

- Conduct regional and campus-based training on revisions to the SAT.

- Continue to survey campus enrollment leaders on issues critical to revisions to the SAT.

Suggested Campus Activities:

- ☐ **Start the process for successful technical implementation of changes to scores and to the Electronic Data Layout for October 2015:**

    - ☐ Use the Checklist for implementing the New Electronic Data Layout starting on page 9 to begin the process on your campus.

    - ☐ Identify a lead staff member who will coordinate implementation efforts.

    - ☐ Identify and assemble the campus-wide team needed to make the technical and operational changes effective.

    - ☐ Set a timeline, regular communication plans, and processes needed to identify and implement necessary technical and operational changes.

    - ☐ Schools that receive paper reports will also require system updates. Take this opportunity to consider receiving electronic reports.

- ☐ **Train staff on upcoming changes:**

    - ☐ Plan to attend a summer workshop on SAT revisions in your region. Find one in your region at deliveringopportunity.org/highered.

    - ☐ Contact your regional office to invite College Board staff members to assist with your staff training.

- ☐ **Check conference schedules for sessions on the redesigned SAT.**

2014 Fall
NEXT STEPS

Identify campus uses of SAT scores and prepare for conversations with key constituents.

College Board Activities:

- **2014 College Board Forum** will feature workshops on implementing the new assessments and leveraging College Board Search. Check other conference schedules for available sessions.

- **Release the Fall Edition of the Guide to the Redesigned SAT Implementation** with specific information to prepare you to lead critical conversations with constituents.

Suggested Campus Activities:

(specific information to come in the Fall 2014 Guide)

- ☐ **Identify policies that use SAT scores** (including scholarships or financial aid, placement, etc.).

- ☐ **Prepare for conversations with key constituents,** including:

  - ☐ State and system leaders.

  - ☐ Faculty and senior administrators.

  - ☐ College counselors.

  - ☐ Students and families.

- ☐ **Participate in the preliminary predictive validity study in partnership with the College Board.**

2014 Winter/ **2015** Spring

Continue technical implementation and consider language for publications targeted for fall 2017 applicants.

College Board Activities:

- • Provide training for campus enrollment staff and leaders.

- • Visit campuses to discuss use of concordances and implementation of the new assessments in recruitment and admission.

- • Launch Khan Academy materials for the redesigned SAT.

- • Provide summary and implications of results from the preliminary concordance study.

Suggested Campus Activities:

- ☐ Download test files provided to help you verify your imports will work and continue technical and operational implementation to prepare for **October 2015 Electronic Data Layout changes.**

- ☐ Include language on use of redesigned SAT scores in publications for fall 2017 applicants and beyond.

- ☐ Get updated information on assessment revisions for the PSAT/NMSQT and the SAT at spring conferences.

- ☐ Learn about using concordance tables in preparation for the release of PSAT/NMSQT concordance tables in the fall and SAT concordance tables in the spring.

- ☐ Train staff on updated information on redesigned assessments.

- ☐ Know your College Board point(s) of contact from your region for help during implementation.

2015 Summer

Finalize technical implementation and learn about concordances.

College Board Activities:

- • Provide training for campus enrollment staff and leaders.

- • Provide Concordance Workshops.

Suggested Campus Activities:

☐ Finalize and test the technical and operational implementation to prepare for October 2015 Electronic Data Layout changes.

☐ Learn about using concordance tables in preparation for the release of PSAT/NMSQT concordance tables in the fall and SAT concordance tables in the spring.

☐ Train staff on updated information on redesigned assessments.

2015 Fall –
2018 Fall

Planning for the Future

(details for future activities coming in future guides)

Fall 2015: First redesigned PSAT/NMSQT administered; first data load for the SAT using the new layout; plan for first order of College Board Search using scores from the redesigned PSAT/NMSQT.

Winter/Spring/Summer 2016: First redesigned SAT offered; first redesigned SAT scores received on campus and College Board Search tools updated; first search with redesigned PSAT/NMSQT.

Fall 2016: Use redesigned SAT to start making decisions for students applying as freshmen for fall 2017.

Winter/Spring/Summer 2017: Use redesigned SAT for admission, scholarships, placement, and other campus decisions.

Fall 2017: Create first enrollment reports and trend analysis using redesigned SAT.

Fall 2018: Participate in first comprehensive study of predictive validity of redesigned SAT.

Please note: Our revision and research processes are ongoing. As such, the exact dates and specific details are subject to change.

The new Electronic Data Layout – Coming October 2015

Starting the preparation for the new Electronic Data Layout this summer is the best way to ensure a smooth transition to the redesigned SAT. Included with this guide is a best practices white paper, "Preparing Your Student Information System for the Redesigned SAT," from AACRAO, written in consultation with the College Board. The checklist below is designed to work in conjunction with the enclosed AACRAO white paper. The new Electronic Data Layout is included in print with this guide and is also available electronically at deliveringopportunity/highered.

KEY DATES AND MILESTONES

June 2014: College Board Technology Survey conducted.

July 2014: Redesigned Electronic Data Layout and Implementation Guide released. Campuses create System Implementation Teams.

November 2014: Test data released in the redesigned Electronic Data Layout.

Summer 2015: Campuses conduct final testing on system changes.

October 2015: All SAT scores reported using the new Electronic Data Layout.

Key Changes to the Electronic Data Layout

Changes to the Race/Ethnicity Field

To better serve our nation's changing demographics and to align to federal guidelines, we will be moving to a two-part Race and Ethnicity question. We will also be using subcategories, as permitted by federal guidelines, that will allow your campus to apply your policies related to race or calculation of diversity while making federal reporting easier. In the electronic score report, we will share both the original responses provided by the test-taker, as well as the federal aggregate reporting category (including "two or more races").

The draft questions are below. As drafts, please note that the language may systematically evolve over time.

Please answer both questions about Hispanic origin and about race. For the following questions about your identity, Hispanic origins are not races.

What is your ethnicity? (Check one)

☐ ***Hispanic or Latino (including Spanish origin)***

    ☐ *Cuban*

    ☐ *Mexican*

    ☐ *Puerto Rican*

    ☐ *Other Hispanic or Latino*

☐ ***Not Hispanic or Latino***

What is your race? (You may check all that apply.)

    ☐ *American Indian or Alaska Native*

    ☐ *Asian (including Indian subcontinent and Philippines origin)*

    ☐ *Black or African American (including Africa and Afro-Caribbean origin)*

    ☐ *Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander*

    ☐ *White (including Middle Eastern origin)*

Changes to AI Codes and Data Field Lengths

As our assessments broaden in reach, we are realizing that the current Attending Institution Code (AI Code) or High School Code, which is six characters but utilizes the first two characters to designate location, may not meet our needs in the future. To that end, we will remove the reservation of the first two characters to designate location. We will instead ensure that the location and other applicable high school fields are included in the score report layout, so that institutions can also remove this reserve.

Additionally, there are other changes to data field lengths, formats, and valid values as we are working to align our data standards with Common Education Data Standards (CEDS).

Planning a Successful Electronic Data Layout Implementation

Planning for a successful implementation can be divided into four general tasks. These tasks are sequential, and the success of the latter tasks is dependent on successful completion of earlier tasks.

1. Understand changes to the assessment and scores to be reported.

2. Create the campus structure for implementing the new Electronic Data Layout.

3. Determine the impact of score usage on where data is stored and used.

4. Test System Processes and Report.

1. Understand changes to the assessment and scores to be reported (See Appendix B)

2. Create the campus structure for implementing the new Electronic Data Layout

One of the first steps you should take is to establish a systems project team at your institution. This group and its subgroups will address the various impacts of the redesigned SAT, as they relate to their use in your administrative systems. In considering who to include on such a team, there are likely several areas whose use of the scores in the system and/or reports will have an impact on their work.[1]

☐ **Name a responsible project leader from admission or enrollment who will lead the project of implementing the new layout.**

☐ **Identify and empower a systems project team at your institution. Depending on your campus needs, you may consider including staff from the following areas, as suggested in "Preparing Your Student Information System for the Redesigned SAT":[2]**

☐ Information technology   ☐ Course placement

☐ Recruitment   ☐ Academic advising

☐ Admission   ☐ Athletics

☐ Financial aid and scholarships   ☐ Records and registration

☐ First-year programs   ☐ Institutional research

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1. Tom Green, "Preparing Your Student Information System for the Redesigned SAT," *American Association of Collegiate Registrars and Admission Officers (AACRAO)*. http://www.aacrao.org.

2. *Ibid.*

☐ **Set your first meeting as soon as possible. The October 2015 implementation of the new Electronic Data Layout will require starting the planning process now.**

    ☐ Consider organizing into work or project teams (see AACRAO White Paper for additional information).

    ☐ Set clear expectations and timelines for work.

    ☐ Identify key tasks and milestones.

    ☐ Establish internal communication plans.

> *An important aspect of the project's shared expectations will be an escalation process when project elements, especially milestones, fall behind schedule.[3]*

3. Determine the impact of score usage on where data are stored and used

> *[T]he review of the file layout and how it will be loaded to your systems is an opportune time to engage in the discussion of how you may want to use the data and, therefore, where you want to place the information in your systems. Addressing these questions now will save time and expense later, should you decide to utilize this trove of student data....[4]*

☐ **What data will be uploaded and stored? Is there information you may not currently load that could improve your recruitment and admission processes?**

> *There is also a good deal of additional student information that you can obtain from the score report file, such as participation in co-curricular activities, housing and work plans, if English is the first language in the home, etc. These are responses to the Student Data Questionnaire (SDQ) that can help you learn more about the match between students, their preferences, and needs, and your institution. This information is typically "lost" in the upload of data to your systems.[5]*

☐ **Map test scores and data to system fields.**

☐ **Identify new fields that need to be created, and their characteristics.**

☐ **Determine when and how you will disable existing test score fields from data entry.**

> *Your student information or other systems may not allow for fields to be deactivated and you should never delete those fields and their historical data. However, this is a good time to discuss your options and determine how you may wish to work with the existing SAT I [SAT] fields in your system, after the new scores are received.[6]*

☐ **Determine how redesigned SAT scores will be distinguished from current SAT or older SAT scores.**

For the next several years after the launch of the redesigned SAT, colleges may receive scores from students who took either the redesigned SAT or the current version of the SAT. For this reason, we will provide two sets of fields for score information in the electronic data layout. Please see the table below to understand which score data points will be available for each assessment.

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3. *Ibid.*
4. *Ibid.*
5. *Ibid.*
6. *Ibid.*

Score Type	Redesigned SAT	Current SAT
TOTAL	Available: range is 400–1600	Not available: blank
EVIDENCE-BASED READING AND WRITING SECTION	Available: range is 200–800	Not available: blank
MATH SECTION	Available: range is 200–800	
READING TEST	Available: range is 10–40	Not available: blank
WRITING AND LANGUAGE TEST	Available: range is 10–40	Not available: blank
MATH TEST	Available: range is 10.0–40.0, in increments of 0.5	Not available: blank
CROSS-TEST (2)	Availability subject to research: range is 10–40	Not available: blank
NEW SUBSCORES (7)	Availability subject to research: range is 1–15	Not available: blank
ESSAY READING SUBSCORE	Available: range is 0, 2–8	Not available: blank
ESSAY ANALYSIS SUBSCORE	Available: range is 0, 2–8	Not available: blank
ESSAY WRITING SUBSCORE	Available: range is 0, 2–8	Not available: blank
CRITICAL READING SECTION	Not available: blank	Available: range is 200–800
MATH SECTION	Not available: blank	Available: range is 200–800
WRITING SECTION	Not available: blank	Available: range is 200–800
WRITING MULTIPLE-CHOICE SUBSCORE	Not available: blank	Available: range is 20–80
WRITING ESSAY SUBSCORE	Not available: blank	Available: range is 0, 2–12

☐ **Determine on which screens and in which reports redesigned SAT scores will be seen.**

    ☐ Determine which scores (current and redesigned) will be available.

☐ **Identify ancillary systems that either store or use SAT scores (i.e., CRM, financial aid, advising).**

    ☐ Identify required changes to these systems.

    ☐ Identify scores to be loaded into these systems.

    ☐ Contact your Student Information System vendor regarding their plans for importing the new scores and data layout.

The College Board is working with the leading IT vendors that will provide services to enrollment and admission officers in the coming weeks. This list of vendors includes the following:

- Campus Management

- Ellucian

- Hobsons

- Jenzabar

- PeopleSoft

- Oracle

- SAP

- Common Application

- Slate

A full list of vendors has been gathered via surveys to current score recipients, and over the summer of 2014 we will begin outreach to the vendors to educate them on the score report changes and open the dialogue on how we can best support them during the implementation.

☐ **Identify upload routines that need to be updated across all ancillary systems.**

4. Test System Processes and Reports

☐ **Use the test data file to validate that all mapping and upload scripts work correctly well in advance of the first download of score reports in October 2015. (We suggest validation in summer 2015.)**

☐ **Test automated decision processes that use test score data (i.e., admission, placement, registration).**

☐ **Test reports**

    ☐ Verify changes in how external reports will request information.

    ☐ Modify scripts and downloads for institutional and external reports.

    ☐ Modify trend or longitudinal reports to reflect score changes using concordance tables.

    ☐ Test reports for accuracy.

> *[E]xamine any reports that utilize SAT test score or related data. This will likely be an extensive list, as these data are used to report on anything from predictive admissions models used to drive marketing and student search decisions to retention and graduation analyses. They are also part of most external queries, such as the common data set, VSA College Portrait, state statistical reporting and IPEDS, to name a few. In any report where the current SAT score is used, the new score fields must replace them.[7]*

> *The data validation steps should involve subject matter experts from admissions, records or institutional research to assure that the data they would expect in these fields is accurately populating from the test or actual data file. The staff that would see and work with test data on a daily or weekly basis are typically most qualified to assess the accuracy of it.[8]*

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7. *Ibid.*
8. *Ibid.*

Section 3: About the Redesigned PSAT/NMSQT®

A redesigned PSAT/NMSQT, aligned with the redesigned SAT, will launch in October 2015. The redesigned PSAT/NMSQT will be based on the same content and skills domain as the redesigned SAT. For higher education, the redesigned PSAT/NMSQT will mirror all the benefits of the redesigned SAT. Some of the key changes will:

- Require students to demonstrate their command of evidence found in a wide range of sources.

- Ask students to interpret the meaning of words based on context, while eliminating the need to memorize obscure words.

- Allow students to focus in depth on the math skills that matter most for college and career success.

Scores reported on the redesigned PSAT/NMSQT will be the same as those reported for the redesigned SAT and will report scores on the same score scale as the redesigned SAT. The redesigned PSAT/NMSQT will be part of a system of assessments aligned to the SAT that are focused on monitoring students' progress toward college readiness.

All reporting information and supporting tools are being reimagined to focus on actions that can be taken to help students connect to practice, leverage instructional resources, access scholarships, and succeed in college.

We know this is going to affect your institution's orders on College Board Search, and we are coordinating internal stakeholders to ensure that the process will run smoothly and your recruitment efforts will continue successfully. We are also working closely with our members, advisory councils, and other partners to ensure that the implementation continues seamlessly over time. We will share further details about the redesigned PSAT/NMSQT and the related system of assessments soon.

Why change the test?

Our members, including college and university enrollment officers, school counselors, teachers, and students, have called on us to change the SAT and go beyond assessment to deliver opportunity.

Less than half of the students who take the SAT are college ready, and that statistic has remained constant over time. Even among those who are ready, the majority of low-income, high-achieving students do not apply to the colleges within their reach. For example, among students who are ready for Advanced Placement® courses, African American, Latino, and Native American students are less likely than their peers to take AP math courses.

Our goal is to support college readiness and success for more students and to make sure that those who are prepared take full advantage of the opportunities they've earned through their hard work.

Because a test alone can't change student outcomes, assessments such as the SAT must be integrated with rigorous classroom instruction and, through their results, propel students to greater opportunities. The redesigned SAT will reward productive use of classroom time and a focus on rigorous course work. This should provide a larger, better prepared, and more diverse applicant pool for colleges and universities.

What are the changes?

The changes we're making to the SAT will make it easier than ever for students to show colleges and universities what they have learned in K–12 that is most essential for success in college. The new exam is focused on those things that current research shows matter most for college readiness and success and will introduce new ways for students to show their best work. We've outlined the major changes to the exam and how they will affect the higher education community.

Students affected: The first administration of the SAT will be in spring 2016. The first cohort of students to primarily take the redesigned SAT will be the entering class of 2017. However, some students will take the current SAT before spring 2016 and then take the redesigned SAT later. In those cases, it is recommended that students send both scores to the colleges to which they apply.

Two Section Scores: Evidence-Based Reading and Writing, and Math. (See page 11 for more on scores and scoring.)

Essay: Students will write an essay based on a common prompt that will be applied to a reading passage (source document). The essay will be optional, giving colleges a choice of whether to require it for admission.

Test Length: The length of the test will be 3 hours, plus an additional 50 minutes for the essay. Note that precise timing is tentative and subject to research.

Score scale and new score reports: The SAT will be scored on a 400–1600 scale. (The essay score will be reported separately.) Rich score reports for each test will provide new ways to evaluate a range of different applicants — from high achievers to students who may need remediation.

Administration: The redesigned SAT will be offered in print everywhere and by computer in select locations.

Changes to Content, Test Design

The SAT is being redesigned to more closely reflect the skills and knowledge that current research tells us are most critical for college readiness and success. The exam will require students to have a stronger command of fewer topics. Key changes are as follows:

Relevant Words in Context

Students will need to:

– Interpret meaning based on context

– Master relevant vocabulary

– Engage in close reading

Command of Evidence

Students will be asked to:

– Interpret, synthesize, and use evidence found in a wide range of sources.

– Support the answers they choose with evidence.

– Integrate information conveyed through both reading passages and informational graphics.

Essay Analyzing a Source

The redesigned essay will:

– More closely mirror college writing assignments.

– Cultivate close reading, careful analysis, and clear writing.

– Promote the practice of reading a wide variety of arguments and analyzing an author's work.

Focus on Math that Matters Most

The redesigned SAT will focus in depth on three essential areas of math:

– Problem Solving and Data Analysis (quantitative literacy).

– Heart of Algebra (mastery of linear equations).

– Passport to Advanced Math (familiarity with more complex equations).

Problems Grounded in Real-World Contexts

Students will engage with questions that:

– Directly relate to the work performed in college and career.

– Include charts, graphs, and passages likely to be encountered in science, social science, and other majors and careers.

– Feature multistep applications to solve problems in real-life contexts.

Analysis in Science and in History/Social Studies

Students will need to:

– Solve problems in science and history/social science.

– Revise texts to be consistent with data presented in graphics.

– Read and analyze complex texts in social studies and science.

Founding Documents and Great Global Conversation

The redesigned SAT will include one of the following:

– An excerpt from one of the U.S. founding documents.

– A text from the ongoing global conversation about freedom, justice, and human dignity.

No Penalty for Wrong Answers

Students will earn:

– One point for each correct answer.

– Zero points for unanswered items.

– Zero points for wrong answers.

Score Changes

The SAT has been redesigned to provide more information by reporting more scores than ever before. The redesigned SAT will report

- One total score.

- Two section scores.

- Three test scores (plus additional Essay scores).

- Two cross-test scores.

- Seven subscores.

These "Insight Scores" are intended to provide additional information about student achievement that will convey a cohesive profile of student readiness for college success. The provisional list of scores, subject to further research, is described below.

Total Score

The redesigned SAT will report a total score that will be the sum of two section scores: (1) Evidence-Based Reading and Writing (200–800), and (2) Math (200–800). The SAT total score will be reported on a scale ranging from 400 to 1600. The scores for the Essay will be reported separately and will not be factored into the total score.

Section Scores

The redesigned SAT will report two Section (domain) scores: (1) Evidence-Based Reading and Writing, which will be the sum of the Reading Test score and Writing and Language Test score; and (2) Math, which will be the Math Test score. Each of the two section scores will be reported on a scale ranging from 200 to 800. The scores for the Essay will be reported separately and will not be factored into the section scores.

Test Scores

The redesigned SAT will report three test scores, each on a 10–40 scale: (1) Reading Test score, (2) Writing and Language Test score, and (3) Math Test score. The fourth test, the Essay, will be reported separately. Current plans call for the Essay component to report three analytic scores, a decision that will be reassessed pending the outcome of further research.

The SAT will be the anchor of a vertically aligned, longitudinal assessment system that is designed to monitor student growth across grades in each of these areas annually.

Cross-Test Scores

Pending on the results of research, the redesigned SAT will also report two cross-test scores: (1) Analysis in History/Social Studies, and (2) Analysis in Science. Each of these scores will be reported on a scale ranging from 10 to 40. These scores are based on selected questions in the SAT Reading, Writing and Language, and Math Tests and will reflect the application of reading, writing, language, and math skills in history/social studies and science contexts.

Subscores

The redesigned SAT will report multiple subscores for Reading, Writing and Language, and Math. The Reading and Writing and Language tests will contribute questions to two subscores: (1) Command of Evidence, and (2) Relevant Words in Context. The Writing and Language Test will also report two additional subscores: (1) Expression of Ideas, and (2) Standard English Conventions.

The Math Test will report three subscores: (1) Heart of Algebra, (2) Problem Solving and Data Analysis, and (3) Passport to Advanced Math. In total, pending the results of research, the redesigned SAT will report seven subscores, each on a 1–15 scale.

In addition to these scores, students will have access to other helpful interpretative information about their performance. For example, a student's numerical score will be explained in terms of the knowledge, skills, and understandings that the score likely represents. Providing both numerical and content-based interpretations of student performance not only better defines what students know and can do but also helps students and teachers identify the knowledge, skills, and understandings students can focus on learning next to increase their achievement.

REDESIGNED SAT: INSIGHT SCORES

Total Score
400–1600

Sections (200–800)	Evidence-Based Reading and Writing		Math	
Test (10–40)	Reading	Writing and Language	Math	**Essay** » Reading 2–8* » Analysis 2–8* » Writing 2–8*
Cross-Test (10–40)	Analysis in Science			
	Analysis in History/Social Studies			
Subscores (1–15)		» Expression of Ideas » Standard English Conventions » Relevant Words in Context » Command of Evidence	» Heart of Algebra » Passport to Advanced Mathematics » Problem Solving and Data Analysis	* Combined score of two raters, each scoring on a 1–4 scale