

SAT School Day for Virginia Students



SAT School Day in Virginia

SAT School Day participation has grown significantly in Virginia since its modest beginnings in only four school divisions. Over the past year, the program has expanded to 29 divisions with a total of 44 schools now offering weekday testing. There is a growing consensus that offering the SAT during the school day encourages more students to pursue college. Without the SAT School Day program, many students who are academically prepared to attend college would be left unprepared to apply to college.

SAT School Day gives schools an opportunity to provide all students with the SAT on a weekday—instead of a weekend—in the comfort of their own school for as little as \$8. The program also gives students a college-reportable score accepted at all U.S. colleges and universities. Low-income students can take the SAT, apply to college, send their scores, and apply for financial aid for as many colleges as they choose, all for free.

**Destiny Reaves,
School Counselor,
J.R. Tucker High School
(Henrico Co. Public Schools)**

“For our school, SAT School Day has been a win-win for the students and the school. More students are taking advantage of the SAT now that we are able to offer it on a weekday. SAT School Day eliminates the transportation barrier giving students the opportunity to take the SAT when they otherwise might not have and the potential to open new doors for their futures. Students are also more confident and at ease on test day because it is administered in a comfortable environment, and they are able to prep for the SAT through Khan Academy. We have been very happy with the SAT School Day program, and I highly recommend it.”

“Students are fully supported with SAT School Day—testing takes place in a familiar classroom, it’s a comfortable environment, transportation is already scheduled, and there are no conflicts with work schedules or extracurricular activities. Since we began offering the program, we have noticed that more historically under-represented groups are now taking the test and doing well. Our participation for students of color, first generation, economically disadvantaged, and male students is significantly higher with SAT School Day. Weekday testing also allows the teachers and counselors to be more involved by helping students prep for the SAT. Overall we have had a very positive experience with SAT School Day!”

**Heidi R. Vande Hoef,
Beacon of Hope Future Center
Director,
E.C. Glass High School**

Why Choose SAT School Day?

Benefits to Students

- **Less stress and fatigue:** Students test in a place they know—better rested and prepared.
- **Convenient logistics:** Students and parents don't have to worry about getting to the testing site.
- **No weekend conflicts:** Testing on a weekday will not disrupt weekend responsibilities.
- **Confidence:** SAT is the only admission test that offers free, personalized practice plans for all students. Official SAT Practice on Khan Academy® provides every student with a practice plan built just for them, along with integrated coaching tools for teachers to view progress and support their students.

Benefits to Schools

- **Flexible and efficient to order and deliver:** The entire SAT Suite of Assessments—including the PSAT/NMSQT[®], PSAT[™] 10, and PSAT[™] 8/9—are available to order online, with the ability to administer multiple assessments at the same time. For SAT School Day, you can order for any number of students and select from five administration dates.
- **Easy to monitor progress:** Tests in the SAT Suite share a common score scale and are appropriate for their designated grade levels. It's easy to track performance across tests to measure growth and identify areas where students need help. The secure, interactive score reporting portal makes it easy to view integrated data across the SAT Suite.
- **Supports equity:** When students have the opportunity to test at their school, they're more likely to take the test and contribute to a college-going culture.

SAT School Day in Other States

Gina M. Raimondo, Governor of Rhode Island

"This is about leveling the playing field and increasing access to opportunities to help Rhode Island's kids succeed. Providing these tests for free is about equity—this ensures that all students, regardless of economic circumstances, can use these tests to consider higher education opportunities. We need more students to be college and career ready. The SAT and PSAT set an appropriately high standard and are good tools to help close our skills gap." (via [RI.gov](#))

Jesús Aguirre, District of Columbia State Superintendent of Education

"For the second year in a row, more than 7,000 students in all of DC public and public charter schools will be offered the opportunity to take the college-entrance exam onsite and during the school day at each of our 41 high schools. SAT School Day reduces test-day stress, increases participation, and helps prepare students for the next step in their academic journey." (via [DC.gov](#))

Dianna R. Wentzell, Connecticut Commissioner of Education

"Our job is to make sure all of our students in Connecticut have access to a top-quality education that prepares them for success in college and career. Tests are an important tool for gauging where we are as a state and where students need additional help to succeed. Replacing the Smarter Balanced assessment with the SAT for 11th graders cuts down on the amount of time students spend taking exams and allows high schools to focus on delivering rigorous academic instruction and preparing young people for college." (via [The Office of the Governor](#))

Researcher Joshua Hyman found that thousands of academically prepared students in Michigan had not been taking the ACT or SAT: ¹

- For every 1,000 students who scored high enough to attend a selective college before 2007, another 230 high scorers were uncovered by the new policy. 19% of students who were academically prepared to attend a selective college would have gone undiscovered.
- For low-income students, this policy increased the number eligible to attend selective colleges by 48%.

Researchers have shown that students from Maine, Illinois, and Colorado were also more likely to attend college after passing universal college entrance exam policies.

1. Hyman, J. (2017). ACT for All: The Effect of Mandatory College Entrance Exams on Postsecondary Attainment and Choice. (The MIT Press Journals: Education Finance and Policy 2017 12:3, 2B1-311).

To learn more, visit satschoolday.org/educators