The SSAT

The Middle & Upper Level SSATs At a Glance





What is the SSAT?

The SSAT is the admission exam required by many of the finest independent schools in the world. The SSAT is a timed, multiple-choice test which includes a brief unscored writing sample. The Middle Level is for students in grades 5-7. The Upper Level is for students in grades 8-11.



What's on the SSAT?

Test Section	Timing		
Writing Sample	25 minutes		
Break	5 minutes		
Quantitative (Section 1)	30 minutes		
Reading (Section 2)	40 minutes		
Break	10 minutes		
Verbal (Section 3)	30 minutes		
Quantitative (Section 4)	30 minutes		
Experimental (Section 5)	15 minutes		
Total Testing Time:	3 hours, 5 minutes		



Start at SSAT.org

Visit ssat.org and create an account. Then:

- + **Register for a Test:** Select a test date and test center.
- Prepare and Practice: The best way to prepare to take the SSAT is to become familiar with its format and practice using questions and sample tests developed by the same team that writes the SSAT. Visit www.ssat.org to learn more about the format of the test, how it is scored, and purchase *The Official Guide to the SSAT* and SSAT Practice Online! (see p. 8-9)
- **Find a School:** Learn about our member schools and submit inquiries online.
- + **Prepare for Test Day:** Print out your admission ticket and review test day policies.





- + **Apply to Schools:** Using our Standard Application Online (SAO) you can apply for admission to hundreds of participating schools. Submit a single set of biographic information, essays, and online recommendation forms that can be used to apply to multiple private schools. The SAO also accepts multimedia uploads!
- + **Review and Send Out Your Scores:** Review your score report and select the schools you want to receive your scores.
- + Learn About Testing Accommodations: Students with a disability or those who need to test on Sunday for religious reasons can apply for testing accommodations. Note: Testing accommodations **must** be approved prior to test registration.
- Designate an Advisor: Give your placement counselor or educational consultant the ability to manage your score recipients and monitor your applications.



What is the cost to register for the test?

^{\$}144 for a domestic Standard test

This includes all test locations in the U.S., Canada, Am. Samoa, Puerto Rico, Saipan, and USVI.

^{\$}279 for an international Standard test

This includes all test locations outside the areas listed above.

Register early to avoid late and rush registration fees!

SSAT Fee Waivers

If you are unable to pay the test registration fee due to economic hardship, you may be eligible to receive a fee waiver. Simply request a fee waiver from the admission office at a school to which you are applying before you register for the SSAT, and follow the directions on ssat.org when you register. A fee waiver applies to the test fee only—it does not cover late fees, publications, or service fees. Students receiving a test fee waiver also receive complimentary access to SSAT Practice Online.

ssat.org/registration

What if I require testing accommodations?

A student with a disability or who is unable to test on Saturday for religious reasons may apply for testing accommodations for the SSAT. You must be approved for testing accommodations BEFORE you can register for a test.

These accommodations may include:

- + Permission to mark answers directly in test booklet
- + Large print test booklet and materials

ssat.org/TA

- + Use of laptop computer with spelling aid (for writing sample only)
- + Extra time (1.5x standard time per section)
- + Other accommodations required by the student

Visit ssat.org/TA for more complete information, testing accommodation application requirements, and deadlines.





SSAT Practice Online

Take advantage of the official online source for SSAT practice, developed by the creators of the SSAT. This program helps you prepare for test day by providing practice questions similar to those appearing on the SSAT, delivering full-length sample tests, and identifying exactly which topics need the most attention prior to testing. Other key features include SSAT section tests to target quantitative, reading, or verbal practice, SSAT topic quizzes with tips on how to answer each question, and hundreds of study tools. Learn from the source and get ready for test day!

Students who receive fee waivers for the SSAT are also provided free access to SSAT Practice Online.

ssat.org/practice



Order the only study guide written by SSAT's test development team!

The Official Study Guide for the SSAT includes sample questions and three full-length practice tests, as well as helpful information about the structure and timing of the test, how it is scored, and test-taking and guessing strategies. You can also learn about the Character Skills Snapshot, an online assessment tool that provides schools with a holistic view of students by measuring a student's view of his or her character skill development.

The Official Study Guides are available for both the Middle Level and Upper Level SSATs and are ordered online via your SSAT account.

ssat.org/officialguide



The only prep guide written by the SSAT test development team



How many times can I take the SSAT?

A Standard test is a group administration of the SSAT held at sites worldwide on eight Saturdays each year. There is no limit to the number of Standard tests you can take in a testing year (August 1—July 31). Any test not given on a Standard date is considered a Flex test, including tests administered to individuals or small groups by member schools and consultants. You may take the Flex test only once per testing year, in addition to the Standard test administrations.

What if I can't test on a Standard date?

If none of the Standard test dates work for you, you can contact an educational consultant or a school to which you are applying and ask to take a Flex test. Some regional groups of schools also administer the SSAT on dates they determine. Visit **ssat.org/flex** for more information on Flex testing. You may be charged additional fees by the educational consultant when taking a Flex test with him/her.

Sunday/Sabbath testing

SSAT provides a limited number of test sites for Sunday testing. Sunday testing is available for students who obtain proper clergy approval. Read more at **ssat.org/TA**.

How will I know my scores are available?

Scores are released within two weeks after receipt of test materials. Accessing your online score report and sending and canceling score reports is free. (Cancellations must be done prior to school score release.)

We also offer options for quick access to your scores if you prefer to be notified as soon as they are ready or wish to receive hard copies:

+ Score alert via text or email: \$15

ssat.org/scores

- + Score reports mailed to your home: \$25 (Scores cannot be mailed to schools to which you are applying)
- + Score reports sent via FedEx to your home (U.S./Canada: \$35; International: \$65)



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All fees are non-refundable.



Who gets my scores?

Sending your score reports online to as many member schools of The Enrollment Management Association as you choose is free. You designate which member schools will receive your scores—*either before or after you take the SSAT.* You may choose to wait until you have seen your scores before sending them to schools. Be sure to test early enough in the year for schools to receive your scores by their application deadlines.

Additionally, if you want your current school or advisor to receive a copy of your score report, you can designate them as an advisor using your SSAT account.

Can I see my writing sample?

Families can purchase their student's SSAT writing sample for just \$22. Writing samples are not released to students and families with test scores unless ordered separately.

How do I interpret my SSAT scores?

Your SSAT score report will provide detailed explanations to help you understand each of your scores. Visit **ssat.org/scores** for detailed score interpretation information.

We also offer free webinars on how to read your score report. Visit ssat.org/webinars to view.

Because Character Matters

Schools want to get to know you, and the character skills you exhibit are just as important as your math and verbal skills. Now, there is a way for you to show them those skills— The Character Skills Snapshot!

A school may ask you to take The Character Skills Snapshot to add to your application portfolio. The Snapshot:

- + provides a snapshot in time of your character skills
- + gives admission directors a more complete picture of who you are
- + is an online assessment that takes about 20-30 minutes to complete
- + is free with your SSAT registration*
- + results can be sent to member schools just like your SSAT scores
- *Non-SSAT test takers pay a \$35 fee to take The Snapshot

ssat.org/snapshot



The

Skills

Character

Snapshot



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Applying Made Easy: The Standard Application Online (SAO)

- + Use a single application to apply to multiple schools
- + Pay for your applications online
- + Easily monitor each application's progress
- + Submit student and family information, essays, multimedia submissions, and recommendation forms online only once
- + See upcoming admission events or campus visit opportunities

ssat.org/sao

- + Manage, submit, and track all your application components and manage your tests in the same place
- + Manage your entire application process from your desktop
- + Include your interests and activities, personal and academic achievements, and include multimedia

Hundreds of Schools Accept the SAO Available for grades PK-12



Webinars

The Enrollment Management Association offers a number of free webinars for families to assist them during the admissions process. These free webinars provide additional information about the SSAT, the Standard Application Online (SAO), and the Character Skills Snapshot.

Visit ssat.org/webinars to watch a webinar. All webinars are recorded and posted for on-demand viewing.





ssat.org/webinars





2019-20 Test Registration Calendar

Test Date	Regular Registration Starts August 1, 2019 and ends:	Late Registration Begins (\$45 additional) Begins 12:00 am EST on:	Rush Registration Begins (S85 additional) Begins 12:00 am EST on:	Last Day for Test Registration Without Testing Accommodations Ends 11:59 pm EST on:
Saturday, October 19, 2019	September 28, 2019	September 29, 2019	October 6, 2019	Wednesday, October 16, 2019
Saturday, November 16, 2019	October 26, 2019	October 27, 2019	November 3, 2019	Wednesday, November 13, 2019
Saturday, December 14, 2019	November 23, 2019	November 24, 2019	December 1, 2019	Wednesday, December 11, 2019
Saturday, January 4, 2020	December 14, 2019	December 15, 2019	December 22, 2019	Wednesday, January 1, 2020
Saturday, February 8, 2020	January 18, 2020	January 19, 2020	January 26, 2020	Wednesday, February 5, 2020
Saturday, March 7, 2020	February 15, 2020	February 16, 2020	February 23, 2020	Wednesday, March 4, 2020
Saturday, April 25, 2020	April 4, 2020	April 5, 2020	April 12, 2020	Wednesday, April 22, 2020
Saturday, June 13, 2020	May 23, 2020	May 24, 2020	May 31, 2020	Wednesday, June 10, 2020

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