



# NEW TRIER TOWNSHIP HIGH SCHOOL DISTRICT 203

---

July 2025

Dear Junior Parents and Guardians,

Junior year marks an important and exciting milestone as your child begins the college selection process. As part of this journey, all juniors will take the ACT college admission examination on a school day during the second semester. The ACT, which is also the required college-readiness assessment for Illinois high school students, is tentatively scheduled for Wednesday, April 22, 2026. This exam focuses on essential classroom skills and knowledge and plays a key role in college admissions and scholarship eligibility.

In addition, juniors have the opportunity to take the PSAT/NMSQT (Preliminary Scholastic Assessment Test/National Merit Scholarship Qualifying Test) early in the school year. This test serves both as a practice SAT and as the qualifying exam for the National Merit Scholarship Program. The PSAT is offered only once per school year, in October, and junior year is the only time students can take it to qualify for the scholarship program. New Trier will administer the PSAT on Thursday, October 9, prior to the start of school on the Late Start Day. Juniors who wish to participate must register online by September 1 and arrive at school by 7:45 a.m. on test day.

**PLEASE READ THE FOLLOWING INFORMATION ABOUT COLLEGE ADMISSION TESTS AND TEST  
PREP COURSES.**

## **PSAT/NMSQT and State ACT Tests**

### **PSAT/NMSQT (Preliminary Scholastic Assessment Test/National Merit Scholastic Qualifying Test)**

**Thursday, October 9, 2025 - Late Start Day**

- **This test is optional. Juniors opting to take the PSAT must register online [HERE](#) by September 1, 2025 – NO EXCEPTIONS.**
- The PSAT/NMSQT is a multiple-choice test that measures critical reading skills, math problem-solving skills, and writing skills.
- PSAT scores are not reported to colleges, nor are they included on a student's transcript.
- The PSAT provides entry into competitions for important national scholarships and recognition programs such as National Merit Scholarships, National Achievement Scholars, and National Hispanic Scholars. In addition, students designated as National Merit Semi-Finalists or Commended Students often receive preferential admission to selective colleges and universities even if they have not earned a National Merit Scholarship or Finalist status.
- The cost of the test is \$22.

## State ACT

Wednesday, April 22, 2026

- The digital ACT will include English language arts, mathematics, reading, science, and writing.
- The score may be sent to colleges if a student requests it to be reported; it is not included on a student's transcript.
- The ACT test is a state requirement for high school graduation, and all juniors must take it on the official ISBE test date.
- The state offers this test free of charge; students do not need to register.

Please visit <https://www.newtrier.k12.il.us/testing> to learn more about registering for college admission tests. If you have questions, please contact Erin Torrisi, Testing Manager, at 847-784-2259 or [testing@nthhs.net](mailto:testing@nthhs.net).

## **TEST PREPARATION COURSES**

The best preparation for college admission tests is a rigorous curriculum, which New Trier provides. Historically, New Trier students have done very well on both the ACT and SAT due to the breadth and depth of the curriculum and course offerings. However, some students may benefit from a formal test preparation course. The New Trier test preparation course includes both the ACT and SAT. This fall and next winter, ACT and SAT preparation courses will be available after school on campus. **It is strongly recommended, however, that juniors wait until the winter to take a test preparation course so they will have covered most of the subject matter on college admission tests.**

### **After-School ACT & SAT Preparation Courses**

The fall sessions of the after-school ACT & SAT preparation courses are taught by New Trier faculty members in the English, mathematics, and science departments and begin in late August. We will be offering both in-person and online versions of the class. Both include textbooks and practice tests, in-depth instruction by New Trier faculty members, guided practice with test-taking strategies, and detailed score reports from three, full-length practice exams. These courses will equip students with strategies and materials to prepare them for both the ACT and SAT exams.

#### **In-Person Class:**

Instruction will be after school every day, Mondays through Thursdays at the Winnetka Campus. The course includes sixteen hours of in-person instruction, divided among four subject areas: English, reading, math, and science. Students will be grouped with their peers based on their current math and English enrollment at New Trier in order to provide targeted instruction aligned with their academic curriculum. The fee is \$495 and enrollment is limited to ensure small class size. [In-Person Class Calendar](#)

#### **Online Class:**

We are also offering an online, evening session of the class. Classes will be held entirely online Tuesday and Wednesday nights from 7:00-8:30 PM (see attached calendar for details). Like the in-person class, students will receive instruction from New Trier math, science, and English teachers. The three official practice tests will be taken by students from home. Students use the same texts and practice tests as those enrolled in the in-person class. This fast-paced course is a great option for students with busy schedules and students who are self-directed and motivated to improve their test scores. The fee for the online session is \$495 and enrollment is limited to ensure small class size. [Online Class Calendar](#)

**Registration for fall session test preparation courses will be available through RevTrak on a first-come first-served basis. Registration will open at 7:00AM, Monday, July 21st.** Use [THIS LINK](#) to register for either the online or in-person option. To complete registration, please have the following information ready:

- Your student's ID number
- The name of their adviser
- The name and course number for their math and English classes for the 25-26 school year at New Trier

Please note that registration typically fills up quickly. If you are unable to secure a spot, but would like to be added to the wait list, email the coordinators listed below after registration fills. An additional session of both courses will be offered beginning in mid-January. Families currently receiving New Trier financial aid may be eligible for financial assistance. For information about financial assistance, please contact Kevin Bond.

**For additional information or questions about the test preparation courses, please contact program coordinators Kevin Bond ([bondk@nthsh.net](mailto:bondk@nthsh.net)) or Eric Berliant ([berliane@nthsh.net](mailto:berliane@nthsh.net)).**

Thank you for your attention to these important opportunities. We encourage students to take advantage of the resources available and begin planning ahead to ensure a confident and successful testing experience. Please visit <https://www.newtrier.k12.il.us/testing> for more information.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Melissa Dudic".

Melissa Dudic, Ed.D.  
Director of Curriculum and Instruction