Throughout high school, students are expected to take a variety of standardized tests. These tests include the PreACT, PSAT, ACT, SAT, SAT Subject Tests and AP exams. Tests beginning with letter “P” are practice tests and prepare students for both the SAT and ACT tests. Take these practice PreACT and PSAT assessments seriously though, because not only will these tests indicate future performance, but all Barstow Juniors take the PSAT for National Merit consideration. The PreACT, PSAT and AP tests are administered and taken on campus. The ACT, SAT and SAT Subject tests are taken off campus. If testing is administered on campus, the College Counseling Office registers each student. If testing is administered off campus, the student is responsible for registering themselves with Barstow's code: 261-605.

### PreACT & ACT

#### PreACT

**Sophomore Year**

The PreACT test is taken in the Fall by Sophomores. The PreACT is a “multiple-choice assessment that simulates the ACT testing experience within a shorter testing window on all four ACT test subjects.” It takes approximately 2 hours and 10 minutes to complete. ACT comments that these curriculum-based tests cover the skills and knowledge that are commonly taught in the nations schools and are judged to be important for success in both high school and college. Results from the PreACT are intended to predict a future ACT score. With additional coursework and test preparation, some students have the potential of increasing 2 - 4 points or more from the PreACT Composite to the ACT Composite.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>PreACT</th>
<th>Math</th>
<th>Science</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>English</td>
<td>50 Questions 40 Minutes</td>
<td>30 Questions 30 Minutes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Math</td>
<td>40 Questions 40 Minutes</td>
<td>40 Questions 40 Minutes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Reading</td>
<td>25 Questions 30 Minutes</td>
<td>30 Questions 30 Minutes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Science</td>
<td>30 Questions 30 Minutes</td>
<td>30 Questions 30 Minutes</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

#### ACT

**Sophomore - Senior Years**

The ACT test is accepted by all 4-year institutions in the United States. It includes 215 multiple choice questions and takes approximately 3.5 hours. The essay is optional.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>ACT</th>
<th>Math</th>
<th>Science</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>English</td>
<td>75 Questions 45 Minutes</td>
<td>Sentence Structure, Grammar, Usage, Punctuation and Rhetorical Skills</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Math</td>
<td>60 Questions 60 Minutes</td>
<td>Arithmetic, Algebra, Geometry, Trigonometry, and Probability &amp; Statistics</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Reading</td>
<td>40 Questions 35 Minutes</td>
<td>Passages based on Prose Fiction, Soc. Sciences Humanities, Nat. Sciences</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Science</td>
<td>40 Questions 35 Minutes</td>
<td>Charts/Graphs, Experiments and Conflicting Viewpoints</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Writing</td>
<td>1 Essay 40 Minutes</td>
<td>Essay</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### PSAT, NMQST, SAT, SAT Subject, AP

#### PSAT

**Sophomore & Junior Years**

- All members of the Sophomore (Spring) and Junior (Fall) classes at Barstow are required to take the exam.
- The test contains 3 sections: Evidence-Based Reading & Writing and Math (bring calculator)
- Testing time is 2 hours and 45 minutes.
- Scores on each section range from 160 - 760 points and the highest possible score is 1520.
- The College Counseling Office handles all aspects of registration and test administration.
• Sophomores take this test strictly for practice.
• Please contact Mr. Hill or Mrs. Delaney if you feel you might qualify for a fee waiver.
• Accommodations for extended time for the Junior year administration are provided for students with documented learning differences. Please contact Barstow’s school counselor for instructions.

NMSQT (National Merit Scholarship Qualifying Test)  
Junior Year

Junior year, Barstow students take the PSAT exam a second time for additional practice, but also for entry into the National Merit Scholarship Competition. Juniors reaching a state determined index, which is the total of their scores (reading & writing x 2 + math = selection index) advance in the competition as semifinalists. Semifinalists have the opportunity to become a finalist based on grades, an essay and a recommendation. Students chosen as finalists are entered into the competition for scholarships given by colleges, independent companies and the National Merit Corporation.

SAT  
Sophomore - Senior Years

The SAT is used for admission by most U.S. colleges/universities and is often used to award scholarships and grants. The test is 3 hours and 50 minutes long and is comprised of five sections: Reading, Writing, Math (with calculator), Math (without calculator), and Essay (optional). Each individual content area is scored on a 200 - 800 scale, with a maximum score of 2400 (see table below).

Score Choice
• Designed to reduce stress and improve the test-day experience.
• Gives students the option to choose the SAT scores by test date and SAT subject test scores by individual test that they send to colleges, in accordance with each institution’s individual score-use practice.
• Score choice is optional and if students choose not to use it, all scores will be sent to your selected schools automatically.
• Students are encouraged to follow score-reporting requirements of each college to which they apply, but their scores are not released for admission purposes without specific consent. Colleges/universities will only receive scores that students send them.

SAT Subject Tests  
Sophomore - Senior Years

• SAT Subject tests measure a student’s knowledge and skills of a particular subject and test their ability to apply that knowledge.
• All tests are 1 hour in duration and limited in scope.
• Scores range from 200 - 800 just like the regular SAT.
• Calculators are allowed on the math IC and IIC tests.
• Students are responsible for registering for SAT Subject tests, but please consult with Mr. Hill and Mrs. Delaney before you do so.

AP Tests  
Sophomore - Senior Years

Advanced Placement exams are taken on campus and are products of the AP curriculum offered at Barstow. These tests are scored on a 1 - 5 scale (1: minimum, 3: passing, 5: maximum. Students who are recommended and choose to take AP coursework along with the AP test often gain advanced standing or credit at the college level. Underclassmen who enroll in an AP course are required to sit for the AP exam. Seniors enrolled in AP courses may opt out of the exam in the Spring.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Reading</th>
<th>Math - 2 Sections</th>
<th>Writing</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>52 Questions 65 minutes</td>
<td>Without Calculator 20 Questions, 25 minutes With Calculator 38 Questions, 55 minutes</td>
<td>44 Questions 35 minutes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Reading Comprehension Sentence Completion Short Reading Passages</td>
<td>Basic Arithmetic Algebra I Algebra II Geometry</td>
<td>Grammar Essay</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>