



What's New for 2012-13?

As the first step on the College Readiness Pathway, ReadiStep is designed to work with PSAT/NMSQT and SAT to help educators identify skill needs and make critical interventions from middle school through high school. This year, the ReadiStep™ program has implemented several enhancements, further integrating its offerings with the PSAT/NMSQT® offerings that customers have come to value and trust.

Reporting Enhancements

- **Revised Score Scale**

Beginning in 2012–13, ReadiStep scores will be reported on a scale of 1.0 to 7.0, in increments of 0.1. This revised scale is linked directly to the PSAT/NMSQT and SAT scales, so ReadiStep scores can now be interpreted in direct relation to the other College Readiness Pathway programs. For example, a score of 4.4 on ReadiStep is like a 44 on the PSAT/NMSQT. Additional information, including a research report and an on-demand webinar explaining the change, will be available at readistep.collegeboard.org this summer. Returning customers will be able to access a conversion table that translates prior ReadiStep scores into scores on the new scale.

- **College Readiness Benchmark**

Like PSAT/NMSQT and SAT, ReadiStep now offers a College Readiness Benchmark, a quick indicator of students' academic preparedness. Students who meet or exceed the Benchmark are considered to be on track for college success, while students scoring below the benchmark may need additional support as they transition to high school.

- **New School and District Reports**

Last year, ReadiStep improved its aggregate report offerings with the introduction of **Summary of Answers and Skills (SOAS)** reports. Like PSAT/NMSQT SOAS reports, ReadiStep SOAS reports include skill- and question-level analyses that help schools and districts identify skill gaps and improve curricula. This year, ReadiStep will be continuing its reporting enhancements with two new offerings: **school-level Student Data Files** and **new School Summary Reports**. These easier-to-interpret reports will replace the classroom reports and school and district summary reports provided previously.

In the past, electronic data was provided only at the district level, but a Student Data File on CD will now also be provided to each school that administers ReadiStep. This electronic file includes detailed demographic and performance information, including student ID (if provided) to allow for easy integration with other student data. New School Summary Reports provide an overview of participation and performance.

- **State Standards Alignment**

The skills measured by the ReadiStep program are aligned to Common Core State Standards, as well as individual state standards. Reports detailing these alignments are now available at readistep.collegeboard.org. Use this information, along with SOAS reports, to understand how students' current skill levels compare to key standards.

- **SpringBoard™ Alignment**

New SpringBoard alignment reports show how the skills measured by ReadStep map to specific units within the College Board's SpringBoard curriculum. Teachers and curriculum directors can use these reports, along with SOAS reports, to identify areas in the curriculum where they may need to slow down or emphasize particular skills.

- **Discontinuation of Local Norms**

Like PSAT/NMSQT and SAT, ReadStep is a nationally norm-referenced assessment that shows students how they performed relative to other students nationally. Starting in 2012-13, ReadStep score reports will show performance relative to national norms only, not the "local" norms reported previously.

Test Fee and Billing Changes

The 2012-13 ReadStep test fee is \$8 *per answer sheet scored*. The College Board will no longer be charging per test ordered.

An unused test fee of \$3 will be applied for each test ordered that exceeds 20 percent of the total used. In other words, customers that use at least 80 percent of the tests they order will not incur an unused test fee. Unused test books cannot be returned for a refund.

Unused test fee example:

A school orders 100 tests. There is no charge for 20 unused tests (20% of 100). If the school returns 80 answer sheets for scoring, there is no unused test charge. If the school returns 50 answer sheets for scoring, there will be a \$90 additional charge for the 30 unused tests beyond the 20 free unused tests.

ReadStep invoices will be generated and mailed to customers in January, after all participation counts are finalized.

2012-13 Testing Window

Beginning in the 2012-13 school year, ReadStep will be offered only in the Fall. This year's flexible ReadStep test window is Oct. 17–31, 2012, which coincides with the Oct. 17 PSAT/NMSQT test date.

New Resources for Students, Parents, and Educators

There are several new resources available on the ReadStep website. Additional materials, including new handouts for students and parents, will be posted over the summer. You can find the following items, along with other new materials at readistep.collegeboard.org.

- Guide to Nonstandard Test Formats
- Skills Insight™: Student and Parent Edition
- Student Skill Improvement Action Plan