

SAT/ACT/PAPA testing Swarthmore College Information Sheet

General Information

All students applying for certification must demonstrate competency in the basic skills of reading, writing, and math. Students can demonstrate competency in two ways:

- By reporting to the State acceptable scores on the SAT or the ACT Plus Writing; or
- By taking the Pre-Service Academic Performance Assessment (PAPA) modules in reading, writing, and mathematics.

Additional information on each option is below.

SAT/ACT Option

Students may meet the Basic Skills competencies for Pennsylvania State certification by achieving minimum scores for either the SAT or the ACT.

SAT Section	Score
Reading	27
Mathematics	26
Writing & Language	28

ACT Test	Score
Reading	22
Mathematics	21
Writing & Language	8

You may combine reading, writing, and mathematics module scores from different test providers to meet the basic skills requirements. You may use the composite score method to meet the requirement when you do well in one or two areas to compensate for a lower score in the other area. The composite score is the sum of the passing scores. Use the Composite Score Calculator when mixing tests. Note: when using the composite score, each test must meet or exceed the minimum score listed.

The chair of the Department of Educational Studies can enter these scores when we approve your certification. You must provide us with a copy of your score report in order to do so. You should be able to retrieve this online at no cost.

PAPA Tests

You will find registration and information at WWW.PA.NESINC.COM.

The PAPA test is a 195-minute test administered on the computer. Students must complete three modules:

<i>Test Name</i>	<i>Test #</i>	<i>Format</i>	<i>Time</i>
Reading	8001	36 Selected-response items	45 minutes
		Break	15 minutes
Mathematics	8002	36 Selected-response items	75 minutes
		Break	15 minutes
Writing	8003	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 36 selected-response items • 2 sentence-correction assignments • 1 extended-response assignment 	75 minutes

Registration

- You must create an account and pay for the exam before registering for a date and location.
- The nearest testing sites to Swarthmore College are located in Philadelphia. These sites are accessible by the Media/Elwyn SEPTA train.

Test Fees and Payment Information

COST: \$110 for all modules; \$44 for Math taken separately

Payment Information

Test registration fees must be paid using a credit card (VISA, MasterCard, or Discover Card *only*) or a debit or check card that carries the VISA or MasterCard logo and that can be used without the entry of a personal identification number (PIN). Bankcards without a VISA or MasterCard logo cannot be accepted. The merchant name that will appear on your credit card statement is “Eval Systems Test Fee.”

Financial Assistance Vouchers

Fee waivers may be available for college students who meet the eligibility criteria indicated below. You may receive only one fee waiver per year. Requests are processed on a first-come, first-serve basis.

To be eligible for a fee waiver, you must meet the following conditions:

- You must be enrolled in an undergraduate or graduate degree program;
- You must be currently receiving financial aid;
- You must meet certain eligibility income guidelines.
- To apply for a fee waiver, submit a completed Fee Waiver Request Form **before** registering to test.

http://www.pa.nesinc.com/Content/Docs/PECT_FeeWaiverRequestForm.pdf

Qualification

The PAPA test provides a score for each module on a scale of 100-300. There are two ways to pass the PAPA test:

1. Score at least 220 on each Reading and Writing, and 193 on Mathematics module;
OR
2. Score at least:
 - 193 on PAPA Reading;
 - 176 on PAPA Mathematics;
 - 192 on PAPA Writing;

With a total of 561 on all three modules

If unsuccessful reaching qualifying score of a module, you may retake the test in only that module.

Tip from previous Swarthmore PAPA testers:

- You do not need to bring any testing materials with you (except for identification). The site administrators provide scratch paper, pencil, and earplugs. A digital calculator appears during the math sections.