

**Notification: Using the Past SAT and the Redesigned (New) SAT for State Scholarship Eligibility**

The January 2016 SAT was the last test offered prior to the implementation of the redesigned SAT. Starting March 2016, College Board will employ a redesigned (new) SAT test that includes new components and scoring. From March 2016 moving forward the new SAT will be the only test offered. College Board has issued its own statement regarding the new SAT. In preparation of the employment of the new SAT College Board communicates the following statement:

*“We recognize that many institutions have built effective predictive models and comparative processes using “Super Scoring.” During the transition from the current SAT to the redesigned SAT, colleges will need to develop policies on use of scores from students who have taken both the current and redesigned SAT.*

*The current and redesigned assessments vary in design and content tested. We ask that colleges consider the implications of comparing and combining scores from two different tests as they design their score use policies. We will continue to work with institutions to communicate their defined policies to students.”*

The SC Commission on Higher Education (CHE) has been working with College Board on a straightforward transition that ensures equity from the past SAT to the new SAT. Currently established LIFE and Palmetto Fellows Scholarship statute and regulations allow for students to “super score,” in that a student has an opportunity to combine the highest math and the highest critical reading score to meet the requisite SAT score for the LIFE and Palmetto Fellows Scholarship programs. **In an effort to hold students harmless this year, students will still be allowed to “super score” by using their highest critical reading (now called “evidence based reading and writing”) and highest math scores regardless of the SAT test they take.**

At this time CHE is not able to share the requisite score for those students who take the new SAT as it will be necessary for College Board to provide the established official concordance table. The official concordance table will demonstrate how scores from the past SAT translate into the new SAT\*. College Board’s anticipated release of their official concordance table that is representative of a national sample of students from the administration of the first new SAT is May 2016. Once in receipt of the official concordance table CHE, students and colleges/universities will be able to translate a score of XXX on the past SAT to its corresponding score on the new SAT as the scores pertain to the determination of eligibility for the South Carolina state scholarship programs. Again, in working with College Board, this stipulation is in place to safeguard all eligible students so that neither score from the two SAT tests is advantaged over the other.

Though the Commission will allow for scoring across the SAT tests, it is **strongly encouraged** that students follow up with their planned institution of enrollment to review any policy in place as it pertains to the redesigned SAT.

*\*It is important to note that students who have already earned the requisite scores from the past SAT have in effect “locked in” that eligibility criterion. All other eligibility requirements for the LIFE and Palmetto Fellows Scholarship still must be met. Starting with the 2018 graduating class only scores from the new SAT will be used for determination of eligibility for the LIFE and Palmetto Fellows Scholarship programs.*