

Contra Costa County Office of Education and College Board Partnership

Counselor Professional Development Series

Spotlight on Getting Ready for the Redesigns

The redesigned PSAT/NMSQT[®] and SAT[®] are coming in fall 2015 and spring 2016, respectively. As part of [the College Board](#)'s commitment to communicate clearly about the redesigns, we have partnered with the Contra Costa County Office of Education to launch a series of professional development opportunities for *all* 8th grade and high school counselors to help counseling teams understand the changes and get ready with sample questions from every section.

During the sessions counselors will have the opportunity to learn about the redesigned [SAT Suite of Assessments](#) (PSAT[™] 8/9; PSAT 10 & PSAT/NMST[®]; SAT[®]), including details on:

- ✓ Why the exams are changing
- ✓ Key content changes, with a breakdown of score reporting
- ✓ Exam structure and timing
- ✓ Practice resources, including:
 1. Sample questions in reading, writing and language, and math, as well as sample essay prompts
 2. Skills crosswalks — one for reading and one for writing and language
- ✓ Khan Academy Resources and Counselor Action Plan
- ✓ Expanded Scholarship Opportunities for PSAT/NMSQT[®] test takers
- ✓ Role of higher education in the SAT redesign

We will also review pertinent professional development opportunities to consider as planning for the 2015-16 school year continues, including:

- ✓ Free and local Counselor Workshops
- ✓ Counselor Online Community
- ✓ The First Lady Michelle Obama's "Reach Higher" initiative
- ✓ The Apply to Four or More[™] movement
- ✓ The College Board's AP[®] All-In campaign
- ✓ and much more!

More information and session details to come.