

# Duke TIP

## DUKE UNIVERSITY TALENT IDENTIFICATION PROGRAM 4TH–6TH GRADE TALENT SEARCH

### 2019–2020 PSAT 8/9 Score Results Summary

Congratulations on your child's accomplishment! Being invited to take an above-grade-level test through Duke TIP is an honor and indicates that your student is in the top 5 percent of his or her grade-level testing.

This report shows you how your student's PSAT 8/9 scores compare with those of other Duke TIP talent search participants. As an above-level test, the PSAT 8/9 provides a true academic challenge that should be viewed as a diagnostic tool to identify your student's academic strengths. It may be used to build an appropriate educational plan promoting future academic success. To read more about above-level testing, please visit our [Just the Facts resource page](#).

Keep in mind, this results summary compares your student's scores to other academically talented students nationwide, so you may find your child's percentile rankings are lower than you are used to seeing. This is nothing to worry about; the PSAT 8/9 is designed for eighth and ninth grade students and most likely includes material your child has never been formally taught.



SEE PAGE 4 FOR SUGGESTIONS  
ON BUILDING AN  
EDUCATIONAL PLAN  
BASED ON YOUR STUDENT'S  
TEST SCORES.

# How Do I Interpret My Child's Scores?

The results sent by the College Board compare your student's scores to a typical eighth grader. We recognize that you need additional information to make sound educational choices for your student and to put your student's scores in context. This report allows you to compare your child's scores with those of the other students who took the PSAT 8/9 as an above-level test over the last three years. The combined information on how well your child performs compared to other academically gifted students of the same age and other students several grade levels ahead can be extremely useful when discussing an appropriate educational plan for your child with school counselors and teachers. Keep in mind that the percentile rankings shown on the following page include only fourth, fifth, and sixth graders who qualified for TIP by scoring in the top 5 percent of standardized grade-level tests—meaning these score results represent a “best of the best” comparison.

## PSAT 8/9 AVERAGE SCORE SUMMARY TABLE

	Average Score of Duke TIP Participants	4th Grade Average Score	Top 4th Grade Score	5th Grade Average Score	Top 5th Grade Score	6th Grade Average Score	Top 6th Grade Score	National Average 8th Grade Score	National Average 9th Grade Score	Highest Possible Score
EBRW* Score	449	394	650	438	720	483	720	408	439	720
Math Score	416	369	720	403	720	449	720	406	432	720
Total Score	865	763	1280	841	1380	932	1420	814	870	1440

*Score averages based on scores from the prior three years. Represents 5,896 fourth graders; 9,256 fifth graders; and 12,407 sixth graders.*

*Top scores by grade and total scores are not from the same student.*

*\*EBRW: Evidence Based Reading and Writing*

Note: Scores for talent search testers are retained by College Board for one year, then they are permanently deleted. Duke TIP maintains a copy of the EBRW and Math scores in your student's record indefinitely, and we will never share the scores with others.

## Score Frequency Tables

Use the tables on the next page to compare your student's scores with those earned by other talent search participants. Find your child's score in the shaded column for the corresponding test section and move across to find the percentile rank.

**EXAMPLE:** If your fifth grade child scored 420 on the Math test,

1. Find the number 420 under the Math Percentile Rank score column
2. Read across to find the fifth-grade column, which has a percentile rank of 63 percent.
3. This indicates that the student scored better than 63 percent of this year's group of fifth graders who took the PSAT 8/9 test.

Remember that this test was intended for eighth and ninth graders. Many prior participants have scored lower than they expected the first time they took the above-level test, but improved their scores as they have remained diligent in their studies and continued taking advantage of the challenges offered through the talent search program.

# Score Frequency Tables\*\*

PSAT 8/9 Section Scores  
Range for Sections: 120–720

PSAT 8/9 Total Scores  
Range for Total: 240–1440

## EBRW\* Percentile Rank    Math Percentile Rank

## Total Percentile Rank

SCORE	4th Grade	5th Grade	6th Grade	All Students
720	99	99	99	99
710	99	99	99	99
700	99	99	99	99
690	99	99	99	99
680	99	99	99	99
670	99	99	99	99
660	99	99	99	99
650	99	99	99	99
640	99	99	98	99
630	99	99	97	99
620	99	99	96	98
610	99	99	95	97
600	99	98	93	96
590	99	98	91	95
580	99	97	89	94
570	99	95	86	92
560	99	94	83	90
550	98	93	79	88
540	98	91	76	85
530	97	88	71	82
520	96	86	66	79
510	95	83	62	76
500	93	79	57	72
490	92	76	52	69
480	90	72	47	64
470	87	67	42	60
460	85	62	37	56
450	81	57	32	51
440	78	52	27	46
430	73	46	23	41
420	68	40	18	36
410	62	34	15	32
400	55	29	12	27
390	48	23	9	22
380	41	18	7	18
370	34	14	5	14
360	26	10	3	10
350	20	7	2	8
340	15	4	1	5
330	10	3	1	4
320	7	2	1	2
310	5	1	<1	2
300	3	1	<1	1
290	2	<1	<1	1
280	2	<1	<1	1
270	1	<1	<1	<1
260	1	<1	<1	<1
250	1	<1	<1	<1
240	1	<1	<1	<1
230	<1	<1	<1	<1
≤220	<1	<1	<1	<1

SCORE	4th Grade	5th Grade	6th Grade	All Students
720	99	99	99	99
710	99	99	99	99
700	99	99	99	99
690	99	99	99	99
680	99	99	99	99
670	99	99	99	99
660	99	99	99	99
650	99	99	98	99
640	99	99	98	99
630	99	99	98	99
620	99	99	98	99
610	99	99	97	99
600	99	99	97	98
590	99	99	97	98
580	99	99	96	98
570	99	99	95	97
560	99	99	94	97
550	99	98	93	96
540	99	98	92	96
530	99	97	90	95
520	99	97	88	93
510	99	96	85	92
500	99	95	80	89
490	98	93	75	86
480	97	91	69	83
470	97	88	64	79
460	95	85	58	75
450	93	81	51	70
440	91	75	43	64
430	88	71	38	60
420	84	63	31	53
410	79	55	25	46
400	72	46	19	39
390	65	40	15	34
380	56	31	10	27
370	46	23	7	21
360	36	16	4	15
350	29	12	3	12
340	23	9	2	9
330	17	6	2	6
320	12	4	1	4
310	9	3	1	3
300	7	2	<1	2
290	5	1	<1	2
280	4	1	<1	1
270	2	1	<1	1
260	2	<1	<1	1
250	1	<1	<1	<1
240	1	<1	<1	<1
230	1	<1	<1	<1
≤220	1	<1	<1	<1

SCORE	4th Grade	5th Grade	6th Grade	All Students	SCORE	4th Grade	5th Grade	6th Grade	All Students
1420	99	99	99	99	960	96	86	60	76
1410	99	99	99	99	950	96	84	57	74
1400	99	99	99	99	940	95	81	53	72
1390	99	99	99	99	930	94	79	50	69
1380	99	99	99	99	920	93	77	47	67
1370	99	99	99	99	910	92	75	43	64
1360	99	99	99	99	900	91	72	40	61
1350	99	99	99	99	890	90	69	37	59
1340	99	99	99	99	880	88	66	34	56
1330	99	99	99	99	870	86	63	31	53
1320	99	99	99	99	860	84	59	28	50
1310	99	99	99	99	850	82	56	25	47
1300	99	99	99	99	840	80	52	22	45
1290	99	99	99	99	830	77	48	19	41
1280	99	99	99	99	820	74	44	17	38
1270	99	99	99	99	810	70	40	15	35
1260	99	99	99	99	800	67	37	12	32
1250	99	99	99	99	790	62	32	11	29
1240	99	99	98	99	780	58	29	9	26
1230	99	99	98	99	770	54	25	7	23
1220	99	99	98	99	760	49	21	6	20
1210	99	99	98	99	750	45	18	5	18
1200	99	99	97	99	740	40	15	4	15
1190	99	99	97	99	730	36	12	3	13
1180	99	99	97	98	720	31	10	2	11
1170	99	99	96	98	710	27	8	2	9
1160	99	99	96	98	700	23	7	1	8
1150	99	99	95	97	690	19	5	1	6
1140	99	99	95	97	680	16	4	1	5
1130	99	99	94	97	670	14	3	1	4
1120	99	98	93	96	660	11	2	1	3
1110	99	98	92	96	650	9	2	<1	3
1100	99	98	91	95	640	7	2	<1	2
1090	99	98	89	94	630	6	1	<1	2
1080	99	97	88	94	620	5	1	<1	1
1070	99	97	87	93	610	4	1	<1	1
1060	99	96	85	92	600	3	1	<1	1
1050	99	96	83	91	590	2	<1	<1	1
1040	99	95	81	90	580	2	<1	<1	1
1030	99	94	79	88	570	2	<1	<1	<1
1020	99	93	77	87	560	1	<1	<1	<1
1010	98	92	74	85	550	1	<1	<1	<1
1000	98	91	72	84	540	1	<1	<1	<1
990	98	90	69	82	530	1	<1	<1	<1
980	97	89	66	80	520	1	<1	<1	<1
970	97	87	63	78	≤510	1	<1	<1	<1

\*Evidence Based Reading and Writing

\*\*Score frequencies based on scores from the prior three years.

# How to Use the Information in This Report

Once you know your student's scores and how to interpret them, we recommend that you share this information with your student's school counselor or teacher and talk to them about options for your child. It is important to create an educational plan that challenges your student and keeps him or her engaged. Not all schools offer gifted education options, so you will need to work with your school to obtain the best possible opportunities available for your child.

Please remember that score information from College Board is sent only to testers and their parents. Parents need to provide that information to the child's school should they wish the school to have the student's test scores.

## WHERE DO I GO FROM HERE?

Your child's current PSAT 8/9 results can help your student focus his or her academic efforts to be better prepared for future academic challenges. The SAT suite of tests (including PSAT 8/9) offers grade-level score benchmarks that may indicate whether students are on track for becoming academically college-ready. The following college and career readiness benchmarks represent the section scores that eighth or ninth grade students should meet or exceed to be considered on track to be college ready.

Although your student is many years away from college, the benchmarks may provide another way to compare your child's scores. A score at or above the benchmark may indicate that your young child is already on track for the academic rigors of higher education. If your child scored below the benchmark, this simply shows they are not yet demonstrating that high level of performance. Remember, this is comparing your very bright child to the performance of eighth and ninth graders!

PSAT 8/9 College and Career Readiness Benchmarks*		
	Evidence-Based Reading and Writing	Math
8th Grade PSAT 8/9	390	430
9th Grade PSAT 8/9	410	450

\*Based on scores from all eighth and ninth graders who have taken the PSAT 8/9.

## RECOMMENDATIONS FOR BUILDING AN EDUCATIONAL PLAN

Schools accommodate the needs of gifted students in many different ways. While we have made suggestions below on ways you may enrich a student's education, whether or not an educational option is right for your child depends on factors other than test scores—such as level of maturity and self-motivation, availability of programs, performance of in-school peers, and academic interests. Keep in mind that a strong educational plan is just the start students may need to fulfill their potential. Academically talented students may have special emotional and social needs, as well. To learn more about these issues, visit TIP's blog at [giftedtoday.org](http://giftedtoday.org). It provides guidance on nurturing your gifted student.

You may want to ask if the school is able to provide academic accommodations based on your child's above-level scores. Offering above-level test scores as unbiased evidence for your child's strengths can help a school see that your child may need curriculum changes. These changes can fall within common classroom differentiation practices or more creative changes. You may also want to consider outside enrichment sources through talent search opportunities, local community organizations, academic competitions, or other academic programs.

**Share your child's scores with a school counselor or teacher to discuss the educational options that may be appropriate and available, including:**

- school and summer enrichment activities in a specific academic area, such as advanced-level courses or academic competitions
- distance learning opportunities that offer rigorous coursework and connect your student to content experts and gifted peers
- independent study through tutors or self-paced courses that let your student explore topics at an advanced level
- tiered assignments, which allow an entire class to study the same topic, with individual students assigned tasks with a level of complexity and depth appropriate to their abilities
- continuous progress curriculum (also known as flexible pacing), in which the content and pacing of curriculum are matched to student ability as determined through preassessment, allowing students to advance through the course of study at their own pace as they master curriculum
- curriculum compacting, which allows students to eliminate material they have already mastered from a curriculum and use that time for more challenging learning opportunities
- single-subject acceleration, which advances a student to the next grade level in a particular subject area
- whole-grade acceleration, which means your student advances to the next grade level in all subject areas

# TIP Resources and Activities

Above-level testing is one of the many resources and opportunities that can help your child develop. The amount of benefit your student receives from Duke TIP will depend on his or her level of involvement. We encourage students to participate in the following **Duke TIP activities**, most of which are included as part of your child's Duke TIP enrollment, and designed especially for gifted students seeking to discover and explore new interests while increasing their academic abilities.

- Read TIP's monthly online magazine, *Navigator*, to learn about new subjects or areas of study; read recommendations of books, games, movies; and see what your peers are doing. To ensure that your monthly benefit statement arrives, keep your email address current by using the student update form at [tip.duke.edu/update](http://tip.duke.edu/update).
- The **Duke TIP Book Club** offers students the opportunity to read current, age-appropriate literature and connect with other TIP students nationwide who share their love of reading and discussion. Through the book club, students can develop critical reading skills; investigate the characters and themes of the book; uncover connections to math, science, and history; create their own projects; and make friends with other TIPsters in a safe, moderated space.
- The annual **Duke TIP Writing and Illustration Contest** allows students to hone their creative writing skills and explore their artistic expression.
- **Academic 411**, released at the beginning of the school year, provides advice on how to navigate middle school as an academically talented student.
- TIP's blog, *Gifted Today*, features research in gifted education and advice for parents. The blog can be found at [giftedtoday.org](http://giftedtoday.org).
- Duke TIP educational programs, which include weekend, online, and summer residential options, are available for students who are in the 4th–6th Grade Talent Search and want a more intense academic challenge. Details on dates, additional fees required, and application processes can be found at [tip.duke.edu/programs](http://tip.duke.edu/programs).

## Talent Search Benefits

**Publications:** *Navigator*, *Academic 411*, *Gifted Today*, and *Research Digest*

**Activities:** Bimonthly book club, annual Writing and Illustration Contest, guides exploring topics such as cryptology, story writing, and energy.

Above-level testing experience and test score interpretation

Recognition certificates

## Additional Duke TIP Opportunities\*

**Weekend Programs** (grades 4–6)  
Intensive one-day courses.  
Learn more at [tip.duke.edu/programs](http://tip.duke.edu/programs)

**eInvestigators** (grades 4–6)  
Month-long, interactive online investigation to solve a mystery.  
Learn more at [tip.duke.edu/crackthecase](http://tip.duke.edu/crackthecase).

**CRISIS** (grades 5–6)  
One-week, experiential learning summer residential programs.  
Learn more at [tip.duke.edu/crisis](http://tip.duke.edu/crisis).

\*Information on program details, application dates, and additional fees can be found through the links provided.

For additional resources from Duke TIP, please visit [tip.duke.edu/resources](http://tip.duke.edu/resources).