

BASIS Independent Schools require applicants to submit scores from either the **Independent School Entrance Exam (ISEE)** or the **Secondary School Admission Test (SSAT)** to fulfill their standardized exam requirement for admission.

General FAQ

Q: Does BASIS Independent Schools prefer one exam over the other?

A: No. The ISEE and SSAT are equally acceptable. Admissions committees will consider scores from either assessment as just one component of our holistic admissions review.

Q: Can families submit scores from both exams?

A: No, for easier tracking, workload of admissions teams, and time constraints of the admissions committees during the review period, only one set of scores can be submitted.

Q: Why does BASIS Independent Schools host the ISEE on-site but not the SSAT?

A: The SSAT requires schools to administer the exam only on dates set by the SSAT, while the ISEE allows schools to choose their own testing dates. This flexibility allows us to align our testing dates with our application deadlines while avoiding conflicts with school and community events.

ISEE FAQ

Q: What is the ISEE?

A: The ISEE is a standardized admissions assessment for students entering Grades 2 - 12 and is used by many independent and private schools to help evaluate applicants. The ISEE is offered on specific testing site selected dates, and scores can be sent to multiple participating schools.

Q: What does the ISEE assess?

A: The ISEE assesses a student's academic skills in five key areas:

- **Verbal Reasoning:** Measures vocabulary knowledge, ability to understand relationships between words, and verbal problem-solving skills.
- **Quantitative Reasoning:** Evaluates a student's ability to apply mathematical reasoning and solve problems using logic, patterns, and quantitative concepts.
- **Reading Comprehension:** Assesses the ability to understand, interpret, and analyze information from a variety of reading passages.
- **Mathematics Achievement:** Measures understanding and application of grade-level mathematical concepts and skills.
- **Essay (Writing Sample):** Students respond to a writing prompt. The essay is not scored by the ISEE, but it is shared with schools to provide additional insight into a student's writing ability, organization, and communication skills.

Q: How can I register my child for an exam?

A: Families will create a parent account on the [ISEE website](#), log in, and register for their exam.

Q: Can my child take the ISEE at a different location and share the results of the exam with BASIS Independent Schools?

A: Yes, if more convenient, students can take the ISEE at another testing site and parents can share the results of their exam with us directly in their ISEE Parent Portal.

SSAT FAQ

Q: What is the SSAT?

A: The SSAT is a standardized admissions assessment for students entering Grades 3 - 11 and is used by many independent and private schools to help evaluate applicants. The SSAT is offered on scheduled national test dates, and scores can be sent to multiple participating schools.

Q: What does the SSAT assess?

A: The SSAT assesses a student's academic skills in four key areas:

- **Verbal Reasoning:** Measures vocabulary, word relationships (analogies), and verbal reasoning skills.
- **Quantitative (Math):** Assesses mathematical concepts, problem-solving, and quantitative reasoning. Topics include arithmetic, algebra, geometry, and data analysis appropriate for the student's grade level.
- **Reading Comprehension:** Evaluates the ability to understand, analyze, and interpret a variety of written passages, including literary, scientific, and social studies texts.
- **Writing Sample:** Students respond to a prompt by writing a short essay. The essay is not scored, but it is sent to schools so admissions teams can evaluate a student's written communication, organization of ideas, and writing style.

Q: How can I register my child for an exam?

A: Families will create a parent account on the [SSAT website](#), log in, and register for their exam.

Q: Can BASIS Independent Schools staff assist me with scheduling the SSAT?

A: No. Unlike the ISEE, BASIS Independent Schools does not administer or coordinate SSAT testing and does not have access to SSAT scheduling options or policies. Families who need assistance with registering for or scheduling the SSAT should contact the SSAT General Support Center directly. See details below.

- **1-609-683-4440**
- **info@ssat.org**

General FAQ continued

Q: How can my child prepare for the exam?

A: Both the ISEE and SSAT offer free online practice materials and sample tests on their websites to help students become familiar with the format, question types, and overall testing experience before exam day.

Q: How many sets of scores can I submit to BASIS Independent Schools?

A: For Early Admissions, students can submit one set of scores from an exam taken between August 2026 and November 2026. For Regular Admissions, students can submit one set of scores from an exam taken between August 2026 and February 2027. No scores from before August 2026 will be accepted. Additionally, BASIS Independent Schools will only accept and consider one set of admission test scores per applicant. If we receive more than one set of test scores, we will only review the test scores from the chronologically earliest test date.

Q: When and where can I access my child's exam scores?

A: The ISEE releases scores within one week, the SSAT within two weeks. Once scores are released, families can access their student's official score report through the student account created with the ISEE or SSAT.