

2019 SAT Challenge Report



The **intent** of the **Montana SAT Challenge** is to identify and recognize academically talented seventh and eighth grade students who reason well mathematically, read critically and express themselves well in a self-developed written essay. Through the **SAT Challenge**, seventh and eighth grade students who exhibit strong academic aptitude are eligible to take the **SAT Test** designed normally to be taken by college bound eleventh and twelfth graders. Performance on this test forms the basis for providing academic program counseling and offering opportunities for advanced/accelerated learning.

This year twenty-nine Montana students entered the **SAT Challenge** competition. Twenty-six of these students are being honored and will be recipients of a certificate and medal. Refer to the **MT AGATE Website** <http://www.mtagate.org/sat-challenge.html> for a list of 2019 medal and certificate winners.

The three high scorers in each subtest section (reading/writing, math, and total) will be presented with a \$350.00 scholarship to be used to further their summer academic/enrichment interests. Refer to the **MT AGATE Website** <http://www.mtagate.org/sat-challenge.html> for a PowerPoint which displays a photo and bio for each of the scholarship recipients.

This year's scholarship winners are:

AREA	NAME	CITY/STATE	GRADE LEVEL
Reading/Writing	Maren Elliot	Helena, MT	8
Reading/Writing	Kathrine LeBrun	Laurel, MT	8
Reading/Writing	Riley Laslovich	Missoula, MT	7
Math	Ashley Kim	Missoula, MT	8
Math	Marten Cooper Hartshorn	Bozeman, MT	8
Math	Eli Weisenberger	Laurel, MT	8
Total	Amber Chou	Bozeman, MT	7
Total	Piper Hoxie	Polson, MT	8
Total	Dathan Leuhr	Kalispell, MT	8

I am repeatedly asked about the highest scores for each of the categories. I may share that the:

Highest reading/writing score exceeded 640

Highest math score exceeded 720

Highest total score exceeded 1220

The **SAT** is designed to be used by college bound juniors and seniors and assumes that these students are currently involved in a course of study preparing them for college work. For middle school/junior high students, the **SAT** is a radically “off-level test”.

For students from respective Montana communities who may have scored below the cut-off scores, this should not cause them high concern since they are taking this test long before they might do so. The average depending upon the year for high school juniors/seniors is about 500 on the subtests. The average score for this year’s **SAT Challenge participants** is **521** reading/writing, **513** math, and **1034** total and for the **SAT Challenge winners** **534** reading/writing, **516** math, and total is **1050**. On a side note:

- **6** students qualified for **one** category
- **3** students qualified for **two** categories
- **17** students qualified for **three** categories
- **81%** of the students qualified in **reading/writing**
- **65%** of the students qualified in **math**
- **69%** of the students qualified in **total**

It is important to remember that as **SAT Challenge** students, they represent the ablest 10% of the students for their age and grade. For those students who did not receive monetary scholarship awards – or for those who took **SAT Test** – but did not make it as a medal/certificate winner – participating in the **SAT Challenge** is an accomplishment in itself. Please convey this message to all participants of the **SAT Challenge**.

Each student winner who participated in the **SAT Challenge** will receive an **Interpretive Guide** to help explain the results of the test so that parents and students may see how they compare to other Montana seventh and eighth graders.

Students, parents and educators – thank you for supporting academics.

Respectfully submitted,
Joette Speake
SAT Challenge Administrator

