

## PLACEMENT EXAM

### 8<sup>th</sup> GRADE PLACEMENT EXAM OVERVIEW

The final step for an 8<sup>th</sup> grade student to apply to Gonzaga Prep is to take the placement exam. Gonzaga Prep uses an exam called the *HSPT* (High School Placement Exam) as part of the admissions process.

### TESTING DATES AND TIMES

Friday, December 7<sup>th</sup>—5:00 – 8:30 pm

OR

Saturday, December 8<sup>th</sup>—9:00 am – 12:30 pm

\*Students need to attend only one session.

### REGISTRATION INFORMATION

No RSVP is necessary.

Students will register in the Student Center. We ask they arrive 15 minutes early to register.

There is a \$25 exam fee, payable on the day of the test.

All testing materials, including pencils, will be provided to students. A snack will be provided as well.

Calculators are not permitted for this exam.

### HSPT INFORMATION

The test consists of five sections: Verbal, Quantitative, Reading, Math, and Language. All sections are multiple choice.

Verbal – 60 questions (16 minutes)

Quantitative – 52 questions (30 minutes)

Reading – 62 questions (25 minutes)

Mathematics – 64 questions (45 minutes)

Language – 60 questions (25 minutes)

Students will receive a break and snack halfway through the test.

### ESSAY

Each student will be asked to write an essay about their desire to attend Gonzaga Prep. Students may practice ahead of time, but will not be allowed to use notes during the test. The essay allows the Admissions Committee to assess writing skills, as well as to learn more about the applicant.

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## TEST PREPARATION

Students should not be anxious or nervous for the Placement Exam. Gonzaga Prep uses the Placement Exam as *one step* in reviewing an applicant's ability to be successful at Gonzaga Prep. The HSPT is designed to measure a student's ability in cognitive and basic skill areas, and their 8<sup>th</sup> grade curriculum prepares them well for the test. Below are tips to best prepare for a successful testing experience:

- ✓ Get a good night's sleep the night before the test.
- ✓ Eat a healthy meal before the test.
- ✓ Listen to and read all the directions for each test carefully.
- ✓ Pace yourself – Time limits are set for each subtest.
- ✓ Check your work – If there is time left, go back and review your answers. Throughout the test, continuously check that the answer you are marking on your answer sheet corresponds to the item number in the test booklet.

## ACCEPTANCE NOTIFICATION

The Admissions Committee will begin notifying students of their acceptance decisions in early February 2019. Registration for accepted students will begin in March 2019.

## PLACEMENT EXAM RESULTS

Gonzaga Prep uses the results of the test, along with grades from 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> grade, to determine the best placement for freshman level classes. During the registration process, each student and parent will meet with an academic advisor to discuss class placement. Families receive a copy of the HSPT scores during registration.

During your registration appointment, an academic advisor may recommend a student consider placement in a Honors English or Math class. Students wishing to register for Honors English, or an Honors/Advanced Math class are required to take an additional exam administered by the Gonzaga Prep English or Math department. The Honors exams take place in May 2019.

## DISCLAIMER

Gonzaga Prep is not a public testing center. Gonzaga Prep uses the exam results for internal purposes only. We therefore regret that if a student does not enroll at Gonzaga Prep, we will be unable to release the exam results.