

### *The Rationale for the Change*

There are several advantages to the change in methodology for the SAT Suite of Assessments:

**To make it easier to track progress over time.** The pre-redesign benchmarks were not designed to function together as a system. In contrast, the benchmarks were designed around expected student growth to make it easier to assess how students are progressing year-over-year toward college readiness.

**To provide more actionable feedback.** While the pre-redesign benchmarks provided educators with a general sense of their students' college readiness, they did not provide detailed feedback on specific areas of strengths and weaknesses, or resources to support students. The benchmarks now provide students with more detailed information on their scores.

**To make it more straightforward for students:** We are using a C grade as our new metric, as it is almost universally interpreted as satisfactory in undergraduate institutions and is less confusing to students and educators than B-. Instead of “65% likelihood,” we are using “75% likelihood” to ensure that if we tell a student they are ready for college, there is a relatively small chance that they are not.

### **The Values of the College and Career Readiness Benchmarks**

Across the SAT Suite of Assessments, the benchmark scores\* are as follows:

<b>Assessment – Grade Level</b>	<b>Evidence-Based Reading and Writing Benchmark</b>	<b>Math Benchmark</b>
<b>SAT</b>	480	530
<b>Grade 11</b>	460	510
<b>Grade 10</b>	430	480
<b>Grade 9</b>	410	450
<b>Grade 8</b>	390	430

\*Once students who have taken the redesigned SAT have entered college and earned course grades in the relevant subjects in 2017-18, an additional benchmark study will be conducted.