Incident Brief: College Board Investigates Account and Financial-Aid System Breach

The College Board says unauthorized activity reached account-creation and CSS Profile systems; some basic account information was accessed and the investigation continues.

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Cover image: AI-generated conceptual illustration; it does not depict an actual affected system or institution.

The College Board says unauthorized activity reached systems used to create accounts and submit CSS Profile financial-aid applications. In a November 27 security update, the organization said the actors accessed basic account information for a subset of users and initiated password resets in some cases. It did not provide a total number affected. [1]

The organization said it had no evidence to date of improper access to its repository of test scores and content. New account creation and CSS Profile submissions were temporarily unavailable in its latest update; existing account access continued with reduced functionality. Reuters reported on November 28 that the impact on financial-aid users was still being assessed. [1] [2]

The College Board’s preliminary assessment suggested AI tools were involved, but its investigation remains ongoing and the public update does not establish the complete attack method. Students and families should follow updates through the organization’s official channels and be wary of unsolicited account-recovery messages. [1] [2]

Sources and links

[1] College Board, Security Incident Updates, November 27, 2026

https://newsroom.collegeboard.org/securityupdate

[2] Reuters, Cyberattack on SAT administrator College Board exposed user data, organization says, November 28, 2026

https://www.reuters.com/world/us/cyberattack-sat-administrator-college-board-exposed-user-data-organization-says-2026-11-28/

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https://cybercenter.space/insights/college-board-account-css-profile-cyber-incident-november-2026/