The ACT District Testing program provides students the opportunity to earn college-reportable ACT scores by taking the test in their own classrooms.
Agenda

• ACT, the Company
• The ACT
• College and Career Readiness Benchmarks
• What is ACT District Testing?
• Why do ACT District Testing?
• Benefits
• Questions
OUR MISSION:
Helping people achieve education and workplace success.

Who ACT Serves

Each year, ACT reaches millions of individuals, institutions, and employers in all 50 states and in more than 130 countries.
On November 7th, 1959…

75,406 high school students looking forward to going to college, took the first-ever ACT test.
From its earliest origins, the ACT was designed to predict college performance. E.F. Lindquist, the developer and founder of the ACT, developed it to:

- Measure as directly as possible the skills and abilities required for college success
- Require that students perform tasks comparable to those performed in college work
- Require students to interpret and to evaluate critically, the kind of material they will read and study in college.
The ACT is grounded in the ACT College and Career Readiness Standards, empirically derived descriptions of the essential skills and knowledge students need for college and career and beyond. Constant research informs any changes made to the test blueprints, the ACT College and Career Readiness Standards, and the ACT College Readiness Benchmarks.

60 years of research have ensured the content and predictive validity of the ACT.
ACT College and Career Readiness Benchmarks and Standards

https://www.act.org/standard

- The Benchmarks represent the level of achievement required for students to have a 50% chance of obtaining a B or higher or about a 75% chance of obtaining a C or higher in corresponding credit-bearing first-year college courses.
- They offer a concise, reliable, insightful, strategic resource for articulating postsecondary expectations.
- The Benchmarks are empirically derived and based on the actual performance of students in college.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Subject</th>
<th>ACT Score</th>
<th>First Year College Course</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>English</td>
<td>18</td>
<td>English Composition</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Math</td>
<td>22</td>
<td>College Algebra</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Reading</td>
<td>22</td>
<td>Social Sciences</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Science</td>
<td>23</td>
<td>Biology</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ELA</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>English Composition and Social Sciences</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>STEM</td>
<td>26</td>
<td>Calculus, Chemistry, Biology, Physics, and Engineering</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
National

Attainment of College and Career Readiness

- 1,914,817 high school graduates, or an estimated 55% of the 2018 graduating class, took the ACT®.
- Between 2014 and 2018, the number of students taking the ACT nationally increased by 69,030 students (4 percent).

Percent of 2018 ACT-Tested High School Graduates Meeting ACT College Readiness Benchmarks by Subject

- English: 60%
- Reading: 46%
- Math: 40%
- Science: 36%
- All Four Subjects: 27%

2018 Benchmark Attainment
Why Choose the ACT?

• Designed to measure academic achievement in English, math, reading, science, and writing
  • *Only ACT offers Science*
  • Only ACT offers enhanced scoring for reliable college and career planning insights:
    - STEM Score: Combination of math and science
    - ELA Score: Combination of reading, English, and writing
    - Progress toward Career Readiness Indicator
    - Text Complexity Progress Indicator

• Non Cognitive portions of the test provide:
  - Information on student academic needs
  - The colleges they have selected, size and type of institution
  - The degree of fit between their interests and majors
  - Career and Interest Inventories which populate World of Work Map are unique to each student and can be used for college major and career counseling and exploration.
What is ACT District Testing (DT)?

- Your school district or high school can offer an “official” test administration of The ACT at school during regular school hours on a weekday.

- Since 2007, students in more than 47 states have earned college-reportable scores taking the ACT in their own classrooms through ACT State and District testing.

- Administering the ACT at school allows all students to take the test, an important step toward getting ready for college, at no cost to them.
Specific Benefits: Students

Equity and Access:
• Feel less stress testing in a familiar environment on a regular school day
• Tested on what they’ve learned in their high school core courses
• Eliminate potential concerns about finding transportation to a test center on a Saturday
• Students who qualify for fee waivers on the ACT will still have two testing opportunities on national ACT testing dates

Bridge Building to the Post-Secondary Experience
• The ACT is accepted by all four-year colleges and universities in the United States
• Receive personalized information to explore future college and career decisions based on their strengths, weaknesses, and interests
• Use their scores for financial aid and scholarship applications—early and in time to qualify.
Specific Benefits: Educators

Student-Centered Data for School Improvement

- Establish baseline information on student performance
- Receive information on all of your students’ academic achievement and college readiness levels to establish a baseline for future comparison
- Provide students who are receiving interventions the ability to accurately reflect what they have learned in school

Staff Engagement

- Use data to make informed curriculum decisions and intervention strategies, and to advise students
- Educators receive the results of assessments administered in their schools
- When all students are assessed, educators invest in the results
- Educators value the results and will work to align curriculum and instruction to improve the results when provided training and time to collaborate over the data
Specific Benefits: Educators

Curriculum Alignment

• The ACT is a standards-based assessment based on ACT’s College and Career Readiness Standards
• Educators can absolutely align curriculum and instruction to improve performance on The ACT (Curriculum Review Worksheets Available for download at act.org/standards)
• ACT provides tools and assessments to align curriculum at grades 3-12 to improve college and career readiness for the entire K-12 system

Service to Students and Families

• Ensure student academic growth
• Increase communication regarding college and career readiness with families
• Help students and families with planning for whatever happens next after high school
• Empower your students and educators - ACT Academy, the online ACT test prep tool with personalized learning paths for students.
The Data Tells a Story

Profile Report - High School

Spring District Testing 2018-2019
Grade 11 Tested Students
HIGH SCHOOL
The ACT District Testing Profile Report

• Provides valuable information about the performance of students who took the ACT
• The reports focus on:
  – student performance by gender and ethnicity
  – course rigor
  – course sequence
  – college and career readiness
  – student degree and major aspirations
  – articulation to higher education
Test Options

• The ACT or
• The ACT with writing

Test Administration Modes:

• Paper/Pencil
• Online Testing
• Mixed Mode

Test Dates

• Fall Testing only---or
• Spring Testing only---or
• Both Fall and one Spring test date
ACT District Testing Free and Reduced Lunch Program (FRLP) Discount Pricing

Tier 1: $45.50/$59.00
with Writing

Tier 2: $43.50/$58.00
with Writing

Tier 3: $41.50/$56.00
with Writing

Prices are for the ACT® test and the ACT test with writing. Tiers are based on student enrollment in Free and Reduced Lunch Program (0-49%, 50-74%, 75-100%).
New This Year for the ACT District Testing Program

**English Language Learner Toolkit**
ACT provides accommodations to U.S. students who are English learners (EL). This toolkit will help schools understand ways to use these supports that ensure the ACT scores earned by EL students accurately reflect what they have learned in school.

**Price Lock Option**
Have the assurance of the same pricing for the next 3 years with our new 3-year contract option.

**Additional Testing Window Available**
Increased administration flexibility will be offered with the new Late April 2020 - Online-Only test date option offered April 21 - April 23, 2020 and April 28 – April 30, 2020.

**Student Data Upload Invoicing**
District testing invoicing is now based on school enrollment count in PearsonAccessNext™

Tips for an Accurate Enrollment Count
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Test Session</th>
<th>Registration, Contract, and School List Deadline *</th>
<th>Paper Test Date</th>
<th>Online Testing Window</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Fall 2019</td>
<td>August 16, 2019</td>
<td>Oct 1, 2019 (Initial) Oct 15, 2019 (Makeup)</td>
<td>N/A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Late April 2020 (Online Only)</td>
<td>March 20, 2020</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>Apr 21-23, 2020 Apr 28-30, 2020</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

* This deadline is the date a signed contract and list of participating schools is required. It is possible to register, sign the contract, and submit a list of participating schools the same day using a digital signature.
Increase College Access and Opportunities for All Students

Get Started with District Testing
ACT District Testing

The ACT® District Testing program provides students the opportunity to earn college-reportable ACT scores by taking the test in their own classrooms.

Test Dates

The ACT Taken on Paper
- Initial Test Date: February 25, 2020
- Makeup Test Date: March 10, 2020
- Makeup Accommodations Testing Window: March 10-13, 2020 and March 16-19, 2020

The ACT Taken Online*
- Makeup Online Testing Window: March 10-12, 2020 and March 17-19, 2020

*All dates listed are on a Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday

Welcome to Your Testing Program
Orientation
Get oriented with the testing program

Activity: Make Staff Arrangements

1. Confirm School Test Coordinator Assignment
   - Resources to complete this activity:
     - PearsonAccess® User Guide (Managing Contact and User Account Information section)
     - Manage Contacts (training tutorial)
     - Tip: When the district test coordinator changes the school test coordinator in PearsonAccess®, remember to deactivate the existing test coordinator’s user account. Updates need to be completed in two places: the manage contacts screen and creating a new user account.

2. Select Test Staff
   - Resources to complete this activity:
     - Staff Requirements, Roles, and Responsibilities
     - Choose your Testing Staff (video)

Activity: Manage Participation

- Resources to complete this activity:
  - PearsonAccess® User Guide (Managing Participation section)
  - Manage Participation (training tutorial)

Activity: Verify the Shipping Address

- Resources to complete this activity:
  - PearsonAccess® User Guide (Managing Contact and User Account Information section)
  - Address Change Request Form (pdf)

Activity: Learn about District Testing

- Resources to complete this activity:
  - What’s New (pdf)
  - Testing Policies and Information
  - Tips for Accurate Enrollment and Invoicing (video)
Configuration

Configure testing setup and systems.

Activity: Upload Student Data

Resources to complete this activity:
- Student Data Upload File Requirements & Loading Instructions (pdf)
- Student Data Upload Header Template
- How to upload Student Data to PearsonAccess™ (training tutorial)
- Tips for Accurate Enrollment and Invoicing (pdf)

Activity: Verify Enrollment for Test Materials

1. Verify the enrollment count (the number of examinees expected to test) in PearsonAccess™ listed for:
   - Standard Time Testing
   - Accommodations Formats, Braille Formats, and Translated Test Instructions for English Learners
2. Check that all newly-enrolled students are in PearsonAccess™ by going to Setup, then Students
3. Enroll/unenroll examinees if the enrollment is not accurate

Resources to complete this activity:
- PearsonAccess™ User Guide (Managing Test Materials, Accessing Reports, and Submit a Request to Enroll or Unenroll an Examinee section)
- Enroll/Verify/Update Students in PearsonAccess™ (video)

Tip: To verify accommodations/supports counts, run an Accommodations and Supports Roster in PearsonAccess™.

Activity: Site Readiness for Online Testing

Resources to complete this activity:
- Technical Coordinator Checklist (pdf)
- Technical Requirements for the ACT Test Taken Online
- The ACT Online Testing Site Readiness Plan [Graphic] (pdf)
- Technical Guide (pdf)
- Mock Admin Guide (pdf)
- ACT Online Technical Readiness 1: Overview (video)
- ACT Online Technical Readiness 2: Proctor Caching (video)
- ACT Online Technical Readiness 3: TestNav (video)
- ACT Online Technical Readiness 4: Mock Administration (video)
- ACT Online Technical Readiness 5: PreCache/Purge Test Content (video)
3

Verification
Verify needs for accommodations and/or supports.

Activity: Request Accommodations and/or English Learner (EL) Supports

Resources to complete this activity:
- Information about requesting Accommodations and/or English Learner (EL) Supports
- Quick Start Guide for Requesting Accommodations and/or English Learner Supports (pdf)
- Test Accessibility and Accommodations (TAA) User Guide (pdf)
- Consent to Release Information (pdf)
- Requesting Reconsideration (TAA User Guide) (pdf)
- Retesting with Accommodations (pdf)
- High Incidence Accommodations, Local Arrangements, and Accessibility Supports (pdf)
- Late Consideration (pdf)

Tip: The test coordinator can select one or more test accommodations coordinator(s) (TAC) to help identify examinees who may be eligible for accommodations and/or supports. The TAC may gather supporting documentation and parent/guardian consent to release information to ACT forms. Additionally, the TAC may enter requests in the TAA system. Once the TC has access to the TAA system, the TC grants access to TACs.

Tip: Pay close attention to the dates that ACT is asking you to select in TAA. National test dates are also listed, so be sure to select the test dates for your administration.

Tip: If selecting the Late Consideration date in TAA, make sure to attach the Late Consideration Form in the request.

Tip: If requests are not authorized by ACT, you have the option to test these examinees with accommodations and/or supports, for non-college reportable scores. The test coordinator needs to order non-college reportable materials in PearsonAccess™.
Activity: Prepare for Testing

1. Complete Non-Test Activities
   - Resources to complete this activity:
     - Taking the ACT (pdf)
     - Non-Test Activities
     - How to Complete the Non-Test Information for Online Testing (pdf)
     - Non-Test Instructions for Online Testing (Blank Student Form) (pdf)

2. Prepare Your Examinees
   - Resources to complete this activity:
     - Letter for Students (coming soon)
     - Information for Examinees
     - Successfully Achieving College and Career Readiness for All Students
       - Course Welcome
       - Why Take the ACT
       - Understanding College and Career Readiness
       - Reviewing Curriculum and Instructional Systems
       - Preparing Students for the ACT
       - Analyzing and Using ACT Scores

3. Prepare Your Facility, Staff, and Test Materials
   - Resources to complete this activity:
     - Test Facilities
     - Test Staff
     - Test Materials
     - Test Administration

4. Verify and Update Examinee Information
   - Resources to complete this activity:
     - PearsonAccess™ User Guide (Manage Examinee Information section)

5. Prepare for Online Testing
   - Resources to complete this activity:
     - Technical Guide (pdf)
     - Create and Assign Test Sessions (video)
Questions for Reflection

Do you need a kick-start to building a college-going culture?

Do you want to increase communication regarding college and career readiness with families and build family engagement?

Do you want a counseling tool that provides personalized information to explore future post-secondary and career decisions based on their interests, and academic strengths and weaknesses?

Are you concerned with equity and access for all your students?

How do you know if your students are college and career ready?
Questions?

LEARN MORE AT act.org/district-testing