New Options for the ACT Test
Higher Ed Professionals

Sarah Moothart – Sr. Director, Product
Kenton Pauls – National Director, Higher Education
Why ACT has introduced enhancements
Students Come First

choices  potential  opportunity

experience
New options available in September 2020
Three New Options

- Section Retesting
- Superscoring
- Faster Results with Online Testing

60 years of helping you achieve success.
ACT Section Retesting

• Students who have taken the complete test at least once, will be given the choice to **retake individual ACT section tests**, rather the full ACT - at online equipped national test sites.

• Benefits:
  - Narrow preparation **focus**
  - **Shorter** test time
Superscoring as complement to ACT Section Retesting
ACT Superscoring

• Superscoring allows students to send colleges a super composite score which utilizes **highest individual section scores** across multiple test attempts.

• Benefits:
  ▪ **Best test results** when applying for admissions and scholarships.
  ▪ Highest battery **composite report included**.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>TEST DATE</th>
<th>ENGLISH SCORE</th>
<th>MATH SCORE</th>
<th>READING SCORE</th>
<th>SCIENCE SCORE</th>
<th>COMPOSITE SCORE</th>
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Superscoring research and higher ed superscoring practice
Recent ACT Research: Superscoring

TESTING, TESTING: WHAT IS THE FAIREST SCORE WHEN APPLICANTS RETAKE ADMISSIONS TESTS?
## Superscoring for Prediction Accuracy

### First Year GPA Prediction Error With 3 Testing Occasions

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Score Type</th>
<th>Prediction Error</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Last Score</td>
<td>0.14</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Average Score</td>
<td>0.19</td>
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<tr>
<td>Highest Score</td>
<td>0.13</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Superscore</td>
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</table>

Score used after 3 testing occasions

### First Year GPA Prediction Error With 4 Testing Occasions

<table>
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<th>Score Type</th>
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<tr>
<td>Last Score</td>
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<tr>
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<tr>
<td>Highest Score</td>
<td>0.23</td>
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<tr>
<td>Superscore</td>
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</table>

Score used after 4 testing occasions
Additional Superscoring Resources

Research

• How Should Colleges Treat Multiple Admissions Test Scores?
  • Find high level summary in the 2017 Higher Education Research Digest (p. 3)
• Does Superscoring Increase Subgroup Differences?
  • Find summary in Issue Brief

Recorded webinars

Find among resources at www.act.org/newfirsts
ACT Survey of Current Practice

• In April of 2019 ACT conducted a survey of 115 colleges & universities
• ACT’s old superscoring-averse guidance still drives policy
• Colleges receptive to changing policy based on new ACT research
ACT Online Testing
Faster Results with ACT Online Testing

• Students will have option to take the National ACT test online.

• Multiple-choice scores for online tests available as soon as 2 business days after test.

• Benefits:
  ▪ Ability to choose preferred testing method
  ▪ Faster results for more informed decisions
Implications & Recommendations for Higher Ed
Implications & Recommendations

1. Prepare for student questions about ACT superscoring policy
   • Is your policy clear & ACT-inclusive?
   • Can it be easily found in an online search?

2. Review & develop ACT superscore policy for admission and aid
   • Incorporate The ACT within longstanding SAT-only superscoring policies
   • Consider variability in superscoring language
     • “Highest section tests”; “subsection” “subtests”; “sub scores”; “super score” and “superscoring”

3. Expect additional data for ACT score senders
   • Details forthcoming

4. Equip your admission & recruitment team
   • Higher ed toolkit forthcoming

60 years of helping you achieve success.
University of ____ superscores the ACT. Superscoring at University of ____ means that we consider student’s highest ACT section (or subtest) scores regardless of test date. The super composite ACT score is calculated as the average of the best ACT English, Reading, Math and Science subject scores and is used as one of multiple factors in admission and financial aid. Beginning in September 2020, students are encouraged to send University of ____ their ACT test scores utilizing the Superscore reporting option.
Policy Update: VU Now Superscores ACT

Posted by Jay Watson on Wednesday, September 18, 2019 in General Information, Standardized Testing.

Effective immediately, Vanderbilt will begin superscoring ACT scores. Vanderbilt has superscored SAT scores for years, so this update means Vanderbilt will now superscore both the SAT and ACT.

Superscoring means a college considers the highest section scores across all testing dates. For example, if you take the ACT twice, we will consider your highest Math, English, Reading, and Science section scores even if those didn’t come from the same testing date.
When you make your changes, tag @ACT on Twitter or @ACTUpdates on Facebook.

We’ll share through the ACT network of students and educators.
Recap
## What and When

<table>
<thead>
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For more details...

- www.act.org/newfirsts
- FAQs
- Resources
Questions?