

Administration Guidelines for the State ACT Program 2016-17 School Year

Testing Juniors

Ideally, the ACT should be administered to students in their own schools during regular school hours as part of the state testing program. All juniors should participate in the in-school state testing administration on one of the designated test dates. The option to test during school hours was developed to provide maximum flexibility for schools and districts and to eliminate barriers for students unable to travel to national testing sites.

In-school ACT testing dates

- March 21, 2017 (initial date)
- April 19, 2017 (make-up from March 21; also, schools closed on March 21 can schedule for this date)
- May 3, 2017 (second make-up date)

Testing with accommodations

- The accommodations window for ACT testing is April 19 through May 3
 - i) Districts may choose to test all of their non-IEP students on March 21 and then fully focus on testing students with accommodations April 19 or May 3.
- OR**
- ii) Districts may choose to make April 19 their primary testing date and then test students with accommodations by May 3.
- If you experience any issues with ACT accommodations, immediately contact ACT accommodations at 1-800-553-6244, ext. 1788.

Schools may choose to administer the ACT online

- Online test window is April 19 through May 3.
 - i) It is not necessary for all schools within a district to use the same format. In other words, districts with multiple high schools may have some schools test on paper and some schools test online.
 - ii) If a school chooses to test online, then all students within that school must test online during the online testing window. There are no make-up dates for online testing outside of the window from April 19 through May 3.
- **All** technical specifications required by ACT must be met.
- **All** technical support for online testing will be provided by ACT.

Juniors who miss the state ACT dates

- Districts may issue state-funded testing vouchers to juniors that were unable to participate in the state testing program at their schools on March 21, April 19, or May 3.
 - i) The voucher will allow the junior to take the ACT on the national test date of June 10, 2017, **only**.
- Districts should not issue state-funded testing vouchers to any student below the eleventh grade.

Testing Seniors

Seniors without prior ACT participation

- Seniors with no prior ACT participation (i.e., they did not test at school as a junior, or they did not use a state voucher on a national day) are eligible to test as seniors in two ways via the state ACT program:
 - i) Seniors may take the ACT on the state testing date for juniors at their high school.
 - ii) Districts may issue a state-funded voucher to seniors for use on one of the following national test days: December 10, 2016 or June 10, 2017

ACT retake opportunity

- In 2016, seniors who have previously taken the ACT, whether at school or on their own, are eligible for an ACT retake opportunity at no cost to them.
 - i) October 22, 2016 (national test date)
 - ii) To ensure enough seats for the retake, regular state funded vouchers are **not** valid for this date.
 - iii) Click [here](#) for implementation details about the ACT Senior Retake Opportunity.

ACT Fee Waiver Program

- **ACT fee waivers are different than the state-funded testing vouchers.**
- Students (juniors or seniors), regardless of previous ACT participation, that meet ACT's guidelines for "economically disadvantaged" may apply for up to two fee waivers to take the ACT free of charge.
- ACT's fee waivers may only be used on any national testing day.
- ACT's fee waiver guidelines are available [here](#).

State ACT Testing Calendar

Test Date	Test Options
March 21, 2017	Paper testing (without accommodations)
April 19, 2017	Paper testing (without accommodations)
April 19–May 3, 2017	Paper testing window with accommodations
April 19–May 3, 2017	Online testing window (with or without accommodations)
May 3, 2017	Paper testing makeup, (without accommodations)

To view national ACT testing dates, click [here](#).