

What's Similar?

Each assessment measures the knowledge and skills students need for college and career readiness in English, math, reading, and science. Each assessment reports STEM scores, readiness benchmarks that are linked to the ACT College Readiness Benchmarks, progress indicators for college and career readiness, predicted ACT score ranges, reporting category scores to understand strengths and weaknesses within each subject, and national percentile ranks to understand performance relative to national norms. Scores indicate readiness for advanced high school coursework, including AP.

What's the Difference?



Shorter, simulated versions of **the ACT testing experience**, appropriate for students in grades 8-10 and with scores aligned to the ACT score scale. Also offers assessments and tools for educational and career planning, including the ACT Interest Inventory.



ACT Aspire is a **longitudinal assessment system** for college and career readiness that connects **student progress** from elementary grades through high school with alignment to many states' **college and career readiness standards**. Also includes a writing test.

What are the Primary Uses?



Measure student preparedness for the ACT assessment—intended to help 8th–10th grade students practice for the ACT.



Measure student growth and progress toward college and career readiness from grades 3–10.

Testing Experience



- **Paper-based** assessments
- **Simulates** the ACT test experience
- **Multiple choice** only
- **Full battery** (all four subjects) testing only



- **Online** and **paper**-based assessments
- Includes **Constructed Response** and **Technology-Enhanced** items in addition to **multiple choice**
- **Full battery** or **modular** testing

Security and Reporting



- **Non-secure test**—booklets are retained for student use and reports include analysis of item responses.
- Includes an **Interest Inventory** to help identify career interests and fit
- **Quick turnaround** time for reporting



- **Secure test**— Summative test booklets are collected and returned
- May be used as a part of state and federal **accountability** systems
- **Periodic reports** available within 24 hours



PreACT and ACT Aspire Product Comparison

This resource guide will help users choose the best product for their student population and assessment needs.

| Feature | PreACT 8/9 | PreACT | ACT Aspire Summative | ACT Aspire Periodic |
|--------------------------------|--|--|---|--|
| Value Proposition | A grade 8/9 test aligned to the PreACT and ACT tests. PreACT 8/9 monitors progress toward college and career readiness, predicts performance on the PreACT, ACT, and WorkKeys tests, and provides other supports for college and career exploration. | A grade 10 test that provides practice for the ACT test. PreACT also indicates readiness for college-level courses, predicts performance on the ACT and WorkKeys tests, and provides career-interest fit and other supports for college and career planning. | A secure summative, longitudinal assessment system for grades 3-10 that measures progress toward college and career readiness. ACT Aspire Summative features a rich set of student, educator, and school/district reports for assessing progress over multiple years and across content areas. | A periodic assessment system, supporting the ACT Aspire Summative assessments, designed to be taken throughout the academic year for grades 3-10. ACT Aspire Periodic features a rich set of student, educator, and school/district reports for assessing progress over an academic year and across content areas. |
| Subjects | E/R/M/S | E/R/M/S | E/R/M/S and Writing | E/R/M/S |
| Price Range Per Student | \$14.00 | \$14.00 | \$25.00 online \$31.00 paper/pencil <i>Discounts for quantities</i> | \$10.00 (includes Interim AND classroom assessments) <i>Discounts if also using Summative</i> |
| Test Windows | September 1–June 1 | September 1–June 1 | 8 week window for Fall <i>(exception: Fall 2020 test window September 1–November 20)</i> 8 week window for Spring | Anytime from September–June |
| Testing Time | 2 hrs 10 mins total test time <ul style="list-style-type: none"> English: 30 minutes Math: 40 minutes Reading: 30 minutes Science: 30 minutes | 2 hrs 10 mins total test time <ul style="list-style-type: none"> English: 30 minutes Math: 40 minutes Reading: 30 minutes Science: 30 minutes | Timing varies by grade: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> English: 40–45 minutes Math: 65–75 minutes Reading: 65 minutes Science: 60 minutes Writing: 40–45 minutes Total Test Time (full battery): 4 hrs 35 mins to 4 hrs 45 mins | Classroom: approximately 15 minutes per test Interim: approximately one class period (≤45 minutes per subject) |
| Security | Low—Test booklets retained by students | Low—Test booklets retained by students | High—If testing in paper/pencil mode, test booklets returned | Low—Item Response Analysis |



PreACT and ACT Aspire Product Comparison

| Feature | PreACT 8/9 | PreACT | ACT Aspire Summative | ACT Aspire Periodic |
|---|---|---|--|--|
| Question Types | MC only | MC only | MC, CR, and TE items | MC only |
| Assessment Mode | Paper | Paper | Online and Paper | Online (Interim - paper for Braille) |
| Non-Cognitive Portion | Interest Inventory and Planned High School Course Work | Interest Inventory and High School Course Work | No | No |
| Educational Opportunity Service Opt-In | Yes | Yes | No | No |
| Federal Accountability | No | No | Yes | No |
| Report and Data Files | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Paper Student Score Report • Printed Educator/Aggregate Reports • Student Data file | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Paper Student Score Report • Printed Educator/Aggregate Reports • Student Data file | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Online Reporting • Download / print all reports • Can order printed Student Reports and score labels for a nominal fee • Student Data File • Aggregate Reports | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Online Reporting • Download / print all reports • Student Data File • Aggregate Reports |
| Reports included | Student Score Reports, Educator Report, Item Response Summary, Student List Report and Early Intervention Roster | Student Score Reports, Educator Report, Item Response Summary, Student List Report and Early Intervention Roster | Student Score Reports, Subject & Skill Proficiency, Supplemental Skills and Current Progress for Educator, School/District and State | Student Score Reports, Subject & Skill Proficiency, Response and Content Analysis for Educator/ Group |
| Reporting Turnaround | 5–10 days after receipt of answer docs | 5–10 days after receipt of answer docs | 30–45 days from the end of the test administration window for Student Score Reports | Within 24 hours online reporting for most reports |
| Scale | Aligned to the 1–36 ACT score scale (30 is the highest possible score) | Aligned to the 1–36 ACT score scale (35 is the highest possible score) | 3 digit scale in the 400+ range | Classroom: Percent correct Interim: 3 digit scale in the 150+ range |



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|--|---|--|---|--|
| Reported Benchmarks and Predictions | Predicted PreACT and ACT score ranges for both composite and subject scores, PreACT 8/9 Readiness Benchmarks by subject, Indicator of Career Readiness | Predicted ACT score ranges for both composite and subject scores, PreACT College Readiness Benchmarks by subject, Indicator of Career Readiness | Predicted PreACT (grades 6-9) score ranges for both composite and subject scores, predicted ACT (grades 6-10) score ranges for both composite and subject scores, ACT Readiness Benchmarks by grade and subject, Indicator of Career Readiness, and Progress with Text Complexity | Classroom: None included Interim: ACT Interim Readiness Benchmarks by grade and subject |
| Student Growth | Growth not reported, but growth measures are supported if used as baseline for PreACT or the ACT test. | Growth not reported, but growth measures are supported if used as baseline for the ACT test, or as the posttest for PreACT 8/9 or ACT Aspire grade 9. Currently, Student Growth Percentile tables are available online (<i>ACT Growth Modeling Resources</i>) for PreACT to ACT and Aspire 9 to PreACT. | Year-to-year growth is reported using Student Growth Percentiles and through the longitudinal reporting. | Classroom: No Interim: Yes, within the same academic year |
| Reporting Measures | Scale scores by subject and for composite and STEM, Reporting Category percent correct, PreACT 8/9 Readiness Benchmarks, Progress Toward Career Readiness, Career Map, Interest-Career Fit, and National Percentile Ranks | Scale scores by subject and for composite and STEM scores, Reporting Category percent correct, PreACT Readiness Benchmarks, ACT College Readiness Benchmarks, Progress Toward Career Readiness, Career Map, Interest-Career Fit, National Percentile Ranks, and Understanding Complex Texts | Scale scores by subject and for composite; ELA and STEM scores; Reporting Category percent correct and readiness ranges; ACT Readiness Benchmarks and Levels; Progress toward Career Readiness; Progress with Text Complexity; and National Percentile Ranks | Scale scores by subject, Reporting Category percent correct, Interim Readiness Benchmarks, and National Percentile Ranks |
| Item Response | Yes—With Correct Answer and Ideas for Progress, In Student and Aggregate Reports | Yes—With Correct Answer and Ideas for Progress, In Student and Aggregate Reports | No | Yes—In Aggregate Only |
| Skill Improvement Suggestions | Yes | Yes | Yes | Yes |