



What's New in 2015–16

Enhancements

The ACT® test has been continually improved over the years to keep it relevant, effective, and grounded in research, without the need for radical or sweeping changes. As previously announced, there are several enhancements that will launch in September 2015, including:

■ New readiness scores and indicators

Students will receive new readiness scores and indicators designed to show performance and preparedness in areas important to success after high school. **The familiar and trusted 1-to-36 scores will not change.** The new scores and indicators will include: STEM Score, Progress Toward Career Readiness Indicator, English Language Arts Score, and Text Complexity Progress Indicator.

■ Enhanced ACT Writing Test

The ACT writing test will remain an optional essay test with a single prompt and a single subject-level writing score. Students who take the writing test will receive a writing subject score on a 1 to 36 scale. Additionally, students will receive scores for four important domains of writing competency, each scored and reported on a 2 to 12 scale. Assessing critical competency domains separately will enable ACT to better identify and reward the strengths students exhibit in their writing, while also noting specific deficiencies. View sample prompts, the scoring rubric, and learn more about the enhanced writing test at www.actstudent.org/writing.

■ New score reports

The addition of new scores and indicators, along with enhancements to the writing test, will require minor modification to the ACT score reports. View the updated reports at www.act.org/aap/resources/results.html.

ACT National Registration Fees for 2015–16

Basic fee per test option (including reports for up to four colleges if valid codes are listed at the time of registration):

The ACT (no writing) – \$39.50

The ACT (with writing) – \$56.50.

Social Security Numbers

ACT has made a policy decision to discontinue the collection and reporting of Social Security Numbers (SSNs). This decision reflects commitment by ACT to the importance of customer data privacy and the particular sensitivity associated with SSNs. Beginning in the 2015–2016 academic year, ACT will be taking steps to stop collecting SSNs, even on an optional basis, and SSNs will no longer be included in any reports.

Complimentary Webinars— Understand and Maximize ACT Report Information

ACT offers many opportunities for customers to better understand how to use ACT reports to inform student counseling regarding educational and career plans and college and career readiness. Free webinars are offered year-round and with topics including: Introduction to The ACT High School Report and Introduction to The ACT Profile Report. Learn more and register for a 60-minute webinar at www.act.org/learning-at-act/training/act.html.

Request for Waiver or Deferral of College Admission Application Fees

Many colleges and universities will consider waiving or deferring the admission application fee for students who have been granted an ACT Fee Waiver. To facilitate consideration of such requests, ACT has provided a request form for high school counselors to photocopy and complete for students. Individual institutions are not obligated to waive or defer their admission application fees for any particular applicants. This form is located on our Educator and Counselor Resources page (www.act.org/aap/resources) in the Results section and can also be found in the *ACT User Handbook for Educators* in the About the ACT Test section.



Rev1