



The ACT[®] International Computer-Based Test FAQs for Students, Parents and Counselors

Q1: When will the ACT[®] start as a computer-based test (computer based testing)?

A: The first administration of the computer-based ACT to international examinees is planned for September 2018.

Q2: Will there be an option to take the paper version after the September 2018 launch?

A: No. The computer-based ACT will be the only option for students outside the US who test on an international ACT test day.

Q3: Many students are worried they will not get a good score on the computer-based test because they have not taken one before. Will ACT provide practice opportunities that will simulate the test? How should students practice for the computer-based ACT test?

A: ACT plans to provide a tutorial and practice questions in the computer-based format, so that international students can have some experience taking a computer-based test. It is important to note that the only difference between the computer-based ACT and the paper version will be the administration format. The ACT test itself will not change.

As a result, test preparation materials such as *The Official ACT Prep Guide*, ACT[®] Online Prep, *Preparing for the ACT*, and officially licensed preparation programs—like the ACT Student Journey—offered by official ACT partners, will continue to provide students with exceptional information and practice that will help them prepare for the ACT, regardless of whether they take it via computer or paper. Beginning in March of 2018, ACT will offer ACT[®] Academy™, a free online resource that offers personalized suggestions for practice exercises and resources based on the results of an online diagnostic.

Q4: Is ACT looking to reduce the number of test dates?

A: No. In fact, with the launch of the computer-based ACT in September 2018, we plan to expand the number of testing sessions from five up to 24, depending on location. ACT is committed to helping international students reach their education goals by offering our test in as many countries on as many dates as we can—while maintaining test security and keeping costs down.



Q5: Will the computer-based test used internationally be comparable to the paper forms used in the US? How will colleges compare them?

A: Yes. The only difference between the computer-based ACT and the paper version will be the administration format. Scores will mean the same thing and will continue to use the familiar 1–36 scale. College reportable scores will be provided to post-secondary institutions and admissions counselors in the same manner that they are today. To ACT's knowledge, this will not result in any different expectations on score submission deadlines for students testing in a computer-based environment.

Q6: Will the results of the computer-based test have the same value to universities? How will they compare results with the American paper form?

A: Yes. Scores on the computer-based version of the ACT will mean the same as those on the paper version, and universities will treat them the same. Research studies establishing the comparability of the two modes will be completed prior to launch in September 2018.

Q7: How many sections will there be in the computer-based ACT, and how many questions in each section?

A: This will be exactly the same as the paper version. The ACT test will have the same four content sections and continue to measure English (75 questions), math (60 questions), reading (40 questions), and science (40 questions), with an optional writing section (1 question).

Q8: How will accommodations work in this new format?

A: ACT is committed to providing a high-quality assessment that provides a level playing field and fair testing experience for all students, including those with disabilities. As a result, ACT will continue to provide accommodations to students who qualify. Students will continue to work with local school officials to request available accommodations via our Test Accessibility and Accommodations System (TAA).

Q9: Why is ACT moving away from paper to the computer-based version? Is there something wrong with the current paper test?

A: No, there is nothing wrong with the current paper test. The computer-based ACT, however, will provide a personalized, secure, scalable experience for test takers. ACT is moving away from paper testing in order to provide students with more opportunities to test and provide scores in a quicker manner. Although there is nothing wrong with the current paper test, it is ACT's mission to continue looking for ways to better meet the needs of its customers.



Q10: Why is ACT starting the computer-based testing internationally? Will it be offered in the US?

A: ACT has been delivering computer-based testing within the US since the spring of 2015 to students who test in a State or District testing program, where all students take the ACT in school, during school hours. States and districts have the option of using the computer version or the paper version.

Q11: Will I be able to take this computer based testing test at my normal test center or at my home high school?

A: The final list of test centers that will deliver the computer-based ACT is not available yet. To meet the growing demand, ACT will be using a combination of existing test centers that have the technical capability to deliver the computer-based ACT and new commercial testing centers.

Q12: When can a student expect to receive their scores?

A: Students who take the ACT as a computer-based test may receive scores on the multiple-choice tests as early as two to three days after taking the exam. Scores on the optional ACT writing test will take longer than that, as the essays will continue to be scored by two professionally trained graders.

Q13: Can ACT help find a test center for students who are having difficulty finding an open seat?

A: Yes, if you have issues please email ACT Customer Care. Our representatives will work to help individuals with specific registration and scheduling questions. The email form can be found here <https://www.act.org/content/act/en/contact-act.html>

Q14: What will the registration fee be for the 2018–2019 school year?

A: ACT is currently working on pricing for the 2018–2019 school year. The published fees should be available in summer 2018.

Q15: Will the result be sent to the universities/colleges automatically?

A: Scores will be sent to the colleges and universities of the examinees' choice, just as they are now. If students authorize their scores to be sent to particular universities by listing them during the registration process, those scores will be automatically sent when the scoring is completed.

Q16: Will the testing time remain the same on the computer based testing version of the ACT as they currently are on paper?

A: ACT is currently conducting research studies. At this time, it is not anticipated that there will be a significant change in testing times.