

The ACT logo is positioned in the top left corner. It features the letters 'ACT' in a white, bold, sans-serif font. A small red swoosh is located under the letter 'A'. A registered trademark symbol (®) is placed to the upper right of the 'T'. The background of the entire page is a blue-tinted photograph of a young man with a large, curly afro hairstyle and round glasses. He is wearing a grey knit scarf and a dark jacket, and has a large black backpack on his back. He is looking off to the right. The image is overlaid with a large, diagonal graphic element consisting of a yellow triangle on the right side and a blue triangle on the left side, meeting at a diagonal line.

ACT®

2020/2021

TEST PREP GUIDE

TABLE OF CONTENTS

- 3** Introduction
- 4** The ACT — What’s New for 2020-2021
- 6** ACT Test Dates & Fees
- 7** New Test Prep Options
- 8** The Official ACT Subject Guides
- 9** The Official ACT Beginner’s Guide
- 10** The Official ACT Prep Guide
- 11** ACT Academy
- 12** ACT Test Prep Comparison Chart
- 14** 4 Ways the ACT Can Help You Get Where You’re Going
- 15** Comparison of the ACT to the SAT
- 16** ACT WorkKeys



WHERE ARE YOU GOING?

Every student of every race, gender, creed, country, and socioeconomic level deserves the opportunity to go wherever your dreams may lead. Maybe you've been planning your future for years. Maybe you're ready to start exploring opportunities. Wherever life takes you, **ACT will help get you there.**

By providing access through fee waivers, offering free, personalized test prep that focuses on skill development, and developing navigation tools that help you find your path in life, we're working hard to see those dreams are realized.

We've provided this guide to make understanding all things ACT as simple as possible.

WHAT'S NEW for 2020-2021

So much! Here's what's new for the ACT in 2020–21:

Updates to the ACT Test

- ✓ Superscoring

New Test Prep Options

- ✓ The Official ACT[®] Prep Guide 2020-2021
- ✓ The Official ACT[®] Subject Guides – Math, Science, English, Reading
- ✓ The Official Beginner's Guide for ACT[®] 2020-2021
- ✓ The Official ACT[®] Self-Paced Course, Powered by Kaplan
- ✓ The Official ACT[®] Live Online Class, Powered by Kaplan

Learn more about all these exciting new updates throughout this guide.



INTRODUCING THE **ACT SUPERSCORE**

This year for the national ACT test, we're introducing superscoring to give you greater confidence that your scores reflect your overall academic achievement and potential.



Superscoring

Keep your best section scores and use your best overall score.

The ACT Superscore takes the average of your four best subject scores from each ACT test attempt—and counts it as your official score.

Learn more at act.org/morechoices.

2020/2021 TEST DATES

Register
online at
act.org/bts



● REGISTRATION DEADLINE

● LATE REGISTRATION DEADLINE



* No test centers are scheduled in New York for the July test date.

FEES

ACT \$52.00 | ACT with writing \$68.00

ACT now offers four fee waivers to all qualifying students. Counselors can request fee waivers on behalf of qualifying students. Ask your counselor if you qualify.

Students who have taken the ACT with a fee waiver can send an unlimited number of score reports for free.

You may send your superscore or scores from any individual test, even those taken previously during the ACT National Test and State and District Testing.

NEW TEST PREP OPTIONS

The Official ACT® Self-Paced Course

Powered by Kaplan

The Official ACT® Self-Paced Course offers official test content and test-day strategies anywhere, anytime with on-demand tutorials led by an expert teacher. The course is organized with over 30 video lessons that include all official ACT practice questions, plus additional guided and independent practice items. The course also allows you to track and measure progress throughout, with five full length official practice tests included.

Students who register for the ACT test with a fee waiver get 1 year of free access to The Official ACT® Self-Paced Course.

FEATURES:

- Over 30 short video lessons including ACT official content
- 2,000 ACT test questions to practice and gain confidence
- Five full-length ACT practice tests to get familiar with the test format
- Built-in course syllabus

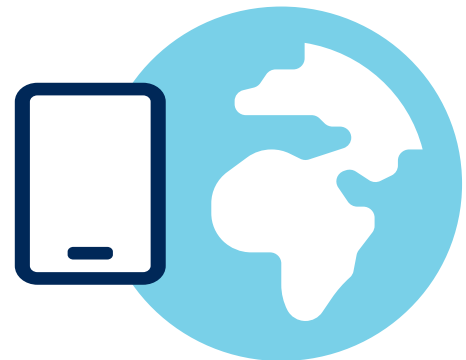
The Official ACT® Live Online Class

Powered by Kaplan

Students learn test content and test-day strategies in a virtual classroom led by an expert from Kaplan who can answer questions and adapt to your needs in real time.

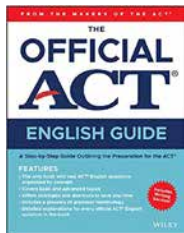
FEATURES:

- 16 hours of live online instruction
- Flexible class options
- Off-camera teachers for additional support
- Access to everything in The Official ACT Self-Paced Course, including 30 short, self-paced video lessons, 2,000 ACT test questions, and five full-length ACT practice tests



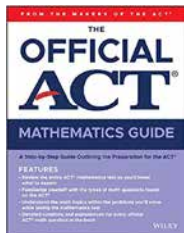
THE OFFICIAL ACT[®] SUBJECT GUIDES

The Official ACT Subject Guides are individual prep books perfect for students who are looking for subject-specific guidance and practice to improve their test scores.



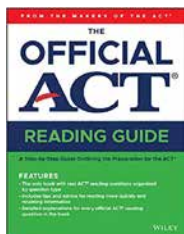
Official ACT English Guide

- Learn time management strategies
- Review the glossary to study grammatical terms covered on the ACT[®] test
- Access ACT writing prompts and more than 150 official ACT English questions with detailed solutions and explanations



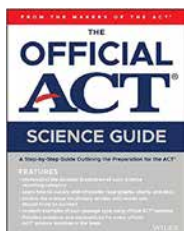
Official ACT Math Guide

- Learn problem-solving techniques
- Understand how to identify the basic math concept found in each question
- Access more than 130 official ACT math questions with detailed solutions and explanations



Official ACT Reading Guide

- Learn how to read faster and retain information
- Understand the best way to approach reading each passage
- Access more than 150 official ACT reading questions with detailed solutions and explanations

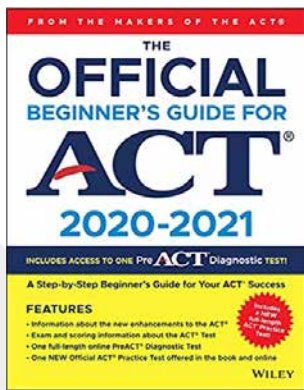


Official ACT Science Guide

- Learn how to quickly and efficiently read graphs, charts, and data
- Review the vocabulary section to study terms covered in the science section
- Access official ACT science questions with detailed solutions and explanations

ACT TEST PREP

THE OFFICIAL ACT® BEGINNER'S GUIDE



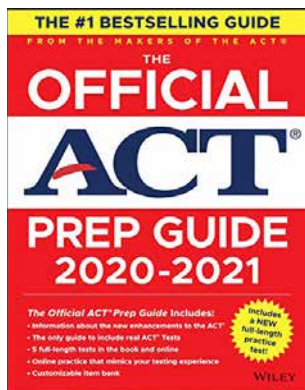
The Beginner's Guide is a test prep tool designed specifically for students who want to get ahead on the college admissions journey. The guide includes an overview of PreACT and the ACT, a full-length practice test, and exclusive access to the PreACT® Diagnostic—an online exam that allows you to take the first step by using results to identify areas to focus on sooner!

FEATURES:

- Exclusive online access to the PreACT Diagnostic test with immediate results
- A brand new, full-length ACT practice test offered in the book and online
- Information about new ACT test enhancements

ACT TEST PREP

THE OFFICIAL ACT® PREP GUIDE



The comprehensive guide provides you with information from registration through results and includes FIVE full-length practice tests and online practice questions. Plus, you get detailed explanations for every answer and practical tips on how to boost your score on the English, math, reading, science, and optional writing tests.

FEATURES:

- Five official full-length tests available in the book and online—including one new, never-seen-before test
- Information about new ACT test enhancements
- Online practice that mimics the testing experience
- Practical strategies and test-taking tips



ABSOLUTELY FREE

PERSONALIZED PRACTICE FOR THE ACT

ACT Academy is a free online learning tool designed to support you as you prepare for the ACT through delivery of content specific to your areas for improvement.








FEATURES:

- The most comprehensive collection of learning resources for students, aggregated and curated by ACT
- Personalized resources
- Educational games and videos to drive mastery of content



ACT TEST PREP

COMPARISON CHART

| | PREPARING FOR THE ACT® TEST (Booklet) | THE OFFICIAL ACT PREP GUIDE | THE OFFICIAL ACT BEGINNER'S GUIDE |
|---|---|--|--|
|  Description | Helpful hints and test-taking strategies, as well as one complete practice ACT. | Real test questions and detailed explanations for every answer to help you get familiar with the format so you can approach the ACT with confidence. | A step-by-step beginner's guide for ACT test success and everything you need to know about the enhancements being made to the ACT. |
|  Why Choose This Option | An introduction to the format and layout of the test. | A comprehensive guide to fully prepare for the test in book format. | Exclusive access to the PreACT® Diagnostic test. |
|  Format |  Download |  Book & Online Features |  Book & Online Features |
|  Price | FREE | \$38.95 | \$23.95 |

| | THE OFFICIAL ACT SUBJECT GUIDES | ACT[®] ACADEMY™ | THE OFFICIAL ACT SELF-PACED COURSE Powered by Kaplan | THE OFFICIAL ACT LIVE ONLINE CLASS Powered by Kaplan |
|------------------------|---|--|---|---|
| Description | Step-by-step information for each section test, allowing you to familiarize yourself with the types of questions you can expect to see on test day. | The online learning resource includes a test prep program with practice tests and resources designed to help you build confidence and strengthen skills. | Test content and test-day strategies available anywhere, anytime with on-demand tutorials led by an expert from Kaplan. | Test content and test-day strategies provided in a virtual classroom led by an expert from Kaplan who can answer your questions and adapt to your needs in real time. |
| Why Choose This Option | Concept-based outlines for the section you plan to focus on. | Practice for the ACT that provides personalized learning resources to build your academic skills. | The 6-month unlimited access subscription provides ample opportunity to prepare for the test and interact with thousands of practice items. | Access to everything in The Official ACT Self-Paced Course plus 16 hours of live instruction. |
| Format |  Book |  Online |  On-Demand Videos |  Virtual Classroom |
| Price | \$19.95 each | FREE | \$99 (access for 6 months) | \$399 (access for 6 months) |

4 WAYS

THE ACT CAN HELP YOU GET WHERE YOU'RE GOING

1

Scholarships

Taking the ACT can increase your chances of earning scholarships. A school counselor in Maine found that over 10 years students who took both the ACT and SAT earned merit awards that were 3 times higher with the ACT test.

2

College and Career Planning

ACT scores do more than get you into college. ACT test results include an education and career planning section that can direct you toward the best path to college and career success.

3

English Learner Support

The ACT test is the only college entrance exam that provides support to English learners on national test dates to ensure that the test scores students earn accurately reflect what they learned in school.

4

STEM Readiness

The ACT test is the only national college entrance exam to measure science skills, including a reportable STEM score, letting you know if you are ready for a STEM major.

COMPARISON

OF THE ACT TO THE SAT*

| | ACT | SAT |
|---|--|---|
| Calculator allowed for entire math test | ✓ | ✗ |
| Essay is optional | ✓ | ✓ |
| No penalty for guessing | ✓ | ✓ |
| Free daily practice questions | ✓ | ✓ |
| Free comprehensive test practice | ✓ | ✓ |
| Test fees waived for eligible students | ✓ | ✓ |
| Fee waiver students eligible for college application fee waiver | ✓ | ✓ |
| Free score reports | ✓ | ✓ |
| All tests 1 hour or less | ✓ | ✗ |
| Measures what students learn in high school | ✓ | ✓ |
| Students have access to English learner supports | ✓ | ✗ |
| Students get a STEM score | ✓ | ✗ |
| Subject scores are balanced | ✓ | ✗ |
| Testing time | 2 hours 55 minutes + 40-minute essay (optional) | 3 hours + 50-minute essay (optional) |
| Structure | 4 tests + optional writing test | 3 tests + optional essay |
| Longest test | 1 hour | 1 hour 20 minutes |
| Shortest test | 35 minutes | 35 minutes |
| Score range | Composite 1–36 (writing domain scores: 2–12) | Composite 400–1600 (SAT Essay: reported in 3 dimensions, each 2–8) |

* Based on publicly released SAT information.



Whether your plans after high school include an internship, working during college, or going straight into the workforce, you can showcase your skills to employers of all kinds with ACT® WorkKeys®.

More than ever, people are entering the workforce unprepared. After taking WorkKeys, you will understand your strengths, weaknesses, and how you stack up to what employers expect.

If you complete the three WorkKeys assessments—Applied Math, Graphic Literacy, and Workplace Documents—

you can earn the ACT® WorkKeys® National Career Readiness Certificate® (NCRC®).

With WorkKeys, you are in control—you can take it on your own time, as many times as you want, and only share scores with employers when you're ready.

Learn more at act.org/workforce





2020/2021

TEST PREP
GUIDE

For more information visit act.org