

What you need to know about the ACT

Notes

- ✓ No electronic devices allowed in test room (includes fitness band; smartwatch; music player).
- ✓ One break of 10 minutes after Math section.
- ✓ Photo ID that matches photo on admission ticket required.
- ✓ No test centers in New York state and California for the July date.
- ✓ Fee Waivers available based on economic need—must apply through high school counselor.

Scoring

Students only receive points for correct answers, so there is no “guessing penalty”. Each section receives a score between 1-36. The four scores are averaged to produce a composite score which is rounded up if necessary.

- ✓ Scores are available 2-8 weeks after the test date.
- ✓ 4 free score reports. Other score reports are \$12 each.

TIR

Costs \$20

Test Information Release (TIR) is available for December, April and June test dates. This will give you the chance to see your actual test with correct answers and is a vital tool to effectively prepare for your next test.

Superscore

“Superscore” refers to when admissions offices will take the best scores on different sections across multiple test dates to give the student their highest possible score. This rarely happens with the ACT, but colleges and universities will notice if you improve from test to test.

English

 45 minutes  75 multiple choice questions

Passages are all text—no graphs or charts. Sentence structure, punctuation, usage, organization and general rhetorical skills are tested in this section.

Math

 60 minutes  60 multiple choice questions

Knowledge of basic formulae is assumed. Number systems, algebra, functions, geometry, statistics & probability and modeling skills are all tested in this section.

Reading

 35 minutes  40 multiple choice questions

Passages come from prose fiction, social science, humanities and natural science. Ability to find supporting evidence within the text is the focus of this section.

Science

 35 minutes  40 multiple choice questions

Questions are arranged in ascending order of difficulty. Passages will refer to specific experiments in chemistry, biology, physics and Earth science.

Writing *optional*

Costs \$16.50

 40 minutes

The essay asks you to develop a perspective on an issue and analyze the relationship between your perspective and one or more alternatives. Essay section scores range between 0-12.