Upcoming ACT Changes

What's Changing

- Reduced the number of questions overall (44 fewer)
- Reduced the test length. Students can receive their college-reportable Composite score after 125 minutes of testing, rather than up to 195.
- More time per question.
- Reduced the number of answer choices in math questions from five to four.
- Students can now choose to take the ACT National test with or without the science section. State and district customers will choose whether to include the science section with the ACT test for their students.

What's Not Changing

- The ACT scale will remain 1-36 with no changes to ACT benchmarks or state-specific achievement standards.
- Scores from tests taken prior to the rollout of the new Composite score will not change.
- Ability to predict success in first-year college credit-bearing courses will not change.
- Paper-and-pencil will continue to be available.

Composite score will be derived from English, reading, and math. Science (if student chooses to take it) will be reported separately.

WHEN WILL THE CHANGES TAKE EFFECT?

Spring 2025-Students may take the new ACT online at certain national test centers.

September 2025- Students may take the paper/pencil version at national test centers.

Spring 2026- Students may take the paper/pencil test on-site at their school.

(Over for more info)

OLD ACT Format

Math – 60 questions; 60 minutes; 1 minute per question

English – 75 questions, 45 minutes, 36 seconds per question

Reading – 40 questions, 35 minutes, 52 seconds per question

Science – 40 questions, 35 minutes, 52 seconds per question

NEW ACT Format

Math – 45 questions, 50 minutes, 67 seconds per question

English – 50 questions, 35 minutes, 42 seconds per question

Reading – 36 questions, 40 minutes, 67 seconds per question

Science (optional) - 40 questions, 40 minutes, 1 minute per question

Upcoming ACT Test Dates:

National (register online using your ACT account)

April 5; deadline to register - February 28

June 14; deadline to register - May 9

At School (register by paper form)

March 11