

# Policies for Extended Time National Testing 2014-2015

Available on all national test dates only in the United States, US Territories, Puerto Rico, and Canada.

#### **Eligibility Policy**

- The ACT® college readiness assessment is offered only in English.
   Accommodations (including extended time) are not available solely on the basis of limited English proficiency.
- ACT provides test accommodations in accordance with Title III of the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA). Schools provide accommodations under different regulations. Thus, having a diagnosis and receiving accommodations in school does not guarantee approval of those accommodations for the ACT.
- The summary Guidelines for Documentation and the detailed information on <a href="www.act.org">www.act.org</a> reflect professional standards in the field. ACT reviewers are looking for objective evidence that demonstrates impairment as recognized by the ADA. Please keep in mind that not everyone with a diagnosed condition is disabled by it, and not all disabilities result in a substantial limitation or impairment for which extended time on the ACT is an appropriate accommodation.
- If the examinee was first diagnosed recently, but has progressed academically without accommodations, or if the examinee does not currently receive accommodations in school, or has only recently been identified for an accommodations plan, it is especially important that the documentation provide objective evidence of the substantial limitation resulting from the condition and a rationale for accommodations.

#### **Confidentiality of Documentation**

All documentation provided to ACT will be kept confidential, will be used solely to determine eligibility for accommodations, and will not become part of your score record.

#### Fees

- The basic test fee covers one report to your high school and up to four college choices at the time of registration.
- Payments must be in the form of a check\* or money order payable to ACT in US dollars and drawn on a US or US affiliate bank.
- If eligible (ask your counselor), you may pay with a fee waiver

Fee Description	Fee
ACT (No Writing)	\$38.00
ACT (NO WHITING)	\$75.00
ACT Dive Meiting	\$54.50
ACT Plus Writing	\$91.50
Test Date Change	\$23.00
Phone Service	\$14.50

\*This is notification that when you pay by check you are authorizing ACT, Inc., to convert your check to an electronic entry. When we use this information from your check to make an electronic funds transfer, funds may be withdrawn from your account as soon as the same day you make your payment, and you will not receive your check back from your financial institution. If your check is returned to us due to insufficient or uncollected funds, it may be re-presented electronically and your account will be debited.

#### **Deadlines**

- It is in your best interest to apply as early as possible.
- Mail the application by the regular deadline for the test date.
- Applications postmarked after the regular deadline bur received by the late deadlines will be processed for the requested test date.

(Deadlines continued in next column)

- Applications received after the late deadline will not be processed.
   You will receive a letter asking if you want your application considered for the next test date.
- Applications will not be considered for standby testing.

#### If an Approved Examinee Does Not Test

- The test for the ACT is nonrefundable once the examinee is approved, even if he or she does not test.
- An examinee is considered "tested" if they break the seal on their test booklet or open the booklet.
- Examinees who do not test may request the following:

#### Test Date Change

If an examinee wants to test on a later test date, follow the instructions below. Test Date Change requests received after the late deadline will not be honored.

- On the web. Log in to your ACT web account and choose "Make Changes to your Registration" for that test date. Payment must be made by credit card.
- By phone. Call 319.337.1332 (Monday Friday 8:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m. CT). Request a "Test Date Change" and test with extended time. Payment must be made by credit card.
- By mail. Send a copy of the extended time ticket with a note requesting a new test date and preferred test center for that date.
   Include a check or money order as payment.

#### Refund for Optional Services

Examinees scheduled to take the ACT Plus Writing may request a refund for optional services (e.g., the Writing Test, Test Information Release, and 5<sup>th</sup> or 6<sup>th</sup> college codes) ordered and paid for before the test date.

- Go to www.actstudent.org.
- Type "refund request" in the search bar at the top of the page and follow the links for instructions.
- Requests received after July 31, 2015 will not be honored.

#### If the Approved Examinee Wants to Retest with Extended Time

If an examinee wants to reregister for a *future* national test date and test with the **same** accommodations, there are two options available:

## Reregister on the web.

- 1. Log in to your student web account.
- Click the "Yes" button when asked if you want to test again with the same accommodations.
- You will be prompted to print your ticket as soon as your test center assignment is confirmed.
   Note: Call 319.337.1851 immediately if your ticket does not show "Extended Time" in the topright corner.
- 4. Payment must be made by credit card.

### Reregister by phone.

 Call 319.337.1332 (Monday – Friday, 8:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m. CT).

Note: The phone service fee applies.

- Tell the service representative you want to test again with extended time.
- 3. Payment must be made by credit card.



# Procedures for Extended Time National Testing 2014-2015

#### Overview

The procedures for requesting ACT Extended Time National Testing are outlined below. Please review these steps before completing the Request.

#### Step 1: Choose an appropriate accommodations program.

National Testing: If the examinee can test at a test center within the US, US territories, Puerto Rico, or Canada, and use a regular type (10-point) or large type (18-point) test booklet, request one of the following:

#### **National Standard Time with Accommodations**

- Examples of accommodations available include:
  - assign to a wheelchair-accessible room
  - large type test booklet
  - marking multiple-choice responses in the test booklet
- Examinees with hearing impairments may request seating near the front to lip-read spoken instructions.
- A sign language interpreter to sign spoken instructions (not test items).
- The Application for ACT National Standard Time with Accommodations is available at www.actstudent.org.

#### **National Extended Time**

- Extended Time (50% time extension).
- Approved examinees taking the ACT (No Writing) have up to 5 hours to work on all four multiple-choice tests at their own pace.
- Approved examinees taking the ACT Plus Writing have up to 5 hours and 45 minutes.
- The total time allowed for both test options includes breaks between tests.
- The Request for ACT Extended Time National Testing is available at www.actstudent.org.

Note: Examinees applying for either of the above options can register online at www.actstudent.org or by mail.

- Special Testing: Special Testing at school is designed for examinees whose documented disabilities require accommodations that cannot be provided at a test center. Examples include:
  - o more than 50% time extension
  - testing over multiple days
  - o alternate test formats (braille, DVDs, or a reader)
- use of a scribe or computer for the Writing Test
- extended time on the Writing Test **only**
- The Request for ACT Special Testing is available at www.actstudent.org.

#### Step 2: Review the policies and procedures provided.

- It is important to read and understand the policies and procedures before the Request is submitted.
- o For questions or additional assistance, please call 319.337.1332.

#### Step 3: Register online, complete the Request and provide the required documentation.

- To request Extended Time, register for a national test date by the registration deadline for that test date at <a href="www.actstudent.org">www.actstudent.org</a>.

  Note: When you register, you will automatically be assigned to test with standard time.
- Upload a photo according to the on-screen instructions.
- $\circ\quad$  Print a copy of your ticket for submitting with your Request.
- o Supporting documentation is required. If any of the information provided is found to be false, ACT reserves the right to cancel scores.
- o Faxed or emailed forms will not be accepted.

#### Step 4: Submit the information to ACT.

Mail the following items to ACT Extended Time (50), 301 ACT Drive, PO Box 4068, Iowa City, IA 52243-4068.

- Completed and signed Request for ACT Extended Time National Testing.
- $\circ \quad \text{ Copy of your admission ticket}.$

- Copy of your accommodations plan.
- o Complete documentation when required.

Note: Incomplete/unsigned forms, forms without payment, or forms without all required documentation will delay processing.

Keep a photocopy for your files.

#### Step 5: Receive ACT's accommodations decision notification.

#### Approved:

- You will receive an email notification with instructions to print your extended time admission ticket.
- ACT may reassign you to the nearest test center with an extended time seat available.

#### **NOT** approved:

- o You will receive written notification.
- You will still be registered to test per the information on your original standard time ticket.
- ACT may, at its discretion, request additional documentation to support any application. All documentation must be submitted in writing.

Decisions will not be given by phone. If you have not received a response by mail or email, contact ACT before the test date.



### **Guidelines for Documentation**

#### Overview

Documentation must be written by the diagnosing professional and must meet ALL of these guidelines:

- States the specific impairment as diagnosed.
- Is current (diagnosed or reconfirmed within three academic years).
- Describes presenting problem(s) and developmental history, including relevant educational and medical history.
- Describes the substantial limitations (e.g., adverse effects on learning, academic achievement, or other major life activities) resulting from the impairment, as supported by the test results.
- Describes specific recommended accommodations and provides a rationale explaining how these specific accommodations address the substantial limitations.
- Establishes the professional credentials of the evaluator, including information about licensure or certification, education, and area of specialization.

The information below indicates the required documentation for each condition:

#### ADD/ADHD

- evidence of early impairment
- evidence of current impairment, including presenting problem and diagnostic interview
- evidence that alternative explanations were ruled out
- results from valid, standardized, age-appropriate assessments
- number of applicable DSM-IV or DSM-5 criteria and description of how they impair the individual

#### **Autism Spectrum Disorder**

Documentation should include current information regarding adaptive behavior, executive functioning, attention, mental health, and academic fluency.

#### **Hearing Impairments**

Documentation should include the most recent audiogram and/or an evaluation of communication skills including speech, reading, and receptive/expressive language skills.

#### **Learning Disabilities**

Complete test and subtest results including standard scores and/or percentiles from reliable, valid, and standardized measures from:

- an intellectual assessment using a complete and comprehensive battery
- a complete achievement battery
- evidence that alternative explanations were ruled out

#### **Medical Conditions**

- specific diagnosis and age/date of onset
- current and/or prior course of medical treatment, including the impact of medical treatment specific to the examinee
- current and/or prior therapy outcomes (e.g. physical, occupational, and/or speech therapy, mental health counseling/psychiatric treatment)
- current impact on examinee's education (e.g. school absence, hospital and/or home bound status, reduced school schedule)
- current impact on academic functioning (e.g. psychoeducational or neuropsychological evaluations, grade reports, transcripts, and/or other standardized testing)

Refer to <a href="www.act.org/aap/disab/policy.html">www.act.org/aap/disab/policy.html</a> for complete details about what documentation to submit in support of requests for accommodations, including information for examinees who are homeschooled or no longer in high school.

#### **Psychiatric Disorders**

Due to the variable nature of these conditions, the following documentation must be within the past year:

- age of onset and course of illness
- psychological tests used
- the history of treatment for the disorder
- how the impairment affects functioning across settings

#### **Speech and Language Disorders**

- specific diagnosis, including presenting problems
- developmental and educational history
- evidence that demonstrates the current impact of a speech and language disorder on reading, written expression, and/or learning

#### **Traumatic Brain Injuries**

- the date of the accident
- status and diagnosis upon hospital admission
- length of hospital stay
- discharge date
- review of type and outcome of outpatient therapy (Occupational Therapy, Physical Therapy, Speech Therapy), if applicable
- evidence of current, continued educational impairment relating to requested accommodations, supported by objective data (psychological or neuropsychological testing, observations, rating scales, etc.)

#### **Visual Impairments**

- specific ocular diagnosis
- record of complete ocular examination from within the past 12 months including:
  - o chief complaint
  - o history of illness
  - visual acuity
  - complete ocular motility exam (versions, tropias, phorias, stereopsis)
  - o slit lamp exam
  - visual field
  - o pupil exam
  - optic nerve
  - o retina
- results of a measure of reading (decoding, rate, and comprehension) if the diagnosed condition is purported to affect reading



### Request for ACT Extended Time National Testing 2014-2015

**Side 1:** Sections A through F must be completed by the examinee/parent. Please print clearly.

A. Examinee Information	(print or type)				
Name (Last, First, Middle Initial)	)			ACT ID (from ticket)	
itreet Address or PO Box				Date of Birth	
City		State	ZIP	Phone Number (include area code)	
High School / College Currently	Attending			High School Code (if currently attending)	
3. Test Date/ Test Option	and Test Center Choi	ces			
•			r ticket postmarked	by the deadline for the test date on the tick	et.
	_	but received by the late processed for the next		rocessed.	
Test Date (mark only one)  ☐ September 13, 2014	Postmark Deadline August 8	Test Option		Preferred Test Center	
☐ October 25, 2014 ☐ December 13, 2014 ☐ February 7, 2015	September 19 November 7 January 9	☐ ACT (No Writing) ☐ ACT Plus Writing	Test Center Code	:	
☐ April 18, 2015	March 13		Test Center Nam	e	
☐ June 13, 2015	May 8		Test Senies Hann		
·	·		City State/Provin	nce, ZIP/Postal Code, Country	
			,, ,	, , ,	
Regular Type (10-point) be scannable answer sheet  Other Accommodation Mark only if applicable	Note: s Requested and enclose supportin	If you request a large ty	pe booklet, you mu	cannable and large block answer sheets st submit documentation of a visual disabilit 10 or fewer examinees).	y.
• •		ations in addition to ext		to or rewer examinees).	
				ed only through Special Testing.	
☐ Seating at front of room (☐ Written copy of spoken ii☐ Authorization to bring sig	nstructions		s (not test items)	<ul> <li>☐ Wheelchair access; table (not desk)</li> <li>☐ Mark responses in test booklet</li> <li>☐ Other</li> </ul>	
. Student/Parent/Legal	Guardian Signatures (	required)			
officials, physicians, or used solely to determin registered to test with	others having such info e eligibility, and will no <b>standard time on the</b>	ormation. I understand to tot become part of my sco	hat any documenta ore record. <b>If this ap</b> n <b>ter on my ticket. If</b>	release to ACT of diagnostic information by s tion provided to ACT will be kept confidentia oplication is not approved, I understand I an this application is approved, I understand A	ıl, will b n <b>still</b>
Student's Signature		Parent/legal gu	ıardian signature (if	student is under 18) Date	
Provious ACT National	Tosting with Extended	l Time			
	oved for Extended Time	e National Testing AND		or different accommodations, list the month	
f that test date above and	complete BOTH sides o	of the application. You n	nust submit docume	entation to support the new accommodation	ıs.
1onth		Year			

counselor, special education teacher, or principal. (If no longer in school or homeschooled, enclose full documentation and complete sections G.1, G.2, and J. Student's Name: Email address: (optional) Diagnosed Impairment G1. Specific diagnosis: (Required- must be more specific than "learning disabled", "other health impaired", "perceptual communications disorder", auditory processing deficits", etc. Provide the specific diagnosis for learning disabilities, e.g., reading, mathematics, or written expression.) G2. When and by whom the student was: FIRST diagnosed\* Reconfirmation (within last 3 years) Date (month/year): Age or grade of student: Person making diagnosis: Job title Qualifications (degrees, specialization, certification) \*Complete documentation required if FIRST diagnosis was within the last 3 years, or for visual, hearing, psychological, emotional, or physical disorders. See "Guidelines for Documentation". **Documentation Currently on File at School** Circle either YES or NO; check most current and ALL relevant school years; and attach the required documentation. If plan has been in place less **than 3 years**, complete documentation is required. ALL schools – Is an Individualized Education Program (IEP), Section 504 Plan, or official accommodations plan on file for this student that states the need for extended time and any other accommodations requested on Side 1 due to the impairment listed above? YES Check ALL relevant school years: □2014-2015 □2013-2014 □2012-2013 Attach a copy of test accommodations/services pages from most current plan (with the student's name and effective dates). See "Exceptions Statement and Complete Documentation Required" below. AN EXCEPTIONS STATEMENT AND COMPLETE DOCUMENTATION REQUIRED if no IEP, Section 504 Plan, or official accommodations plan is on file OR the plan has been in place less than 3 years: Attach a signed statement on school letterhead detailing the test accommodations currently provided in school due to the diagnosis, the conditions under which they are allowed, and the frequency of current usage. Include a copy of ALL documentation of the student's diagnosis on file at the school. (See "Guidelines for Documentation".) **Current Time Accommodations at School** Circle YES or NO. If NO, see "Exceptions Statement and Complete Documentation Required" below. YES NO Does your school officially permit this student extended time for tests (classroom and standardized) as a result of this diagnosis and supporting documentation? EXCEPTIONS STATEMENT AND DOCUMENTATION REQUIRED. Attach a signed statement on school letterhead from a qualified professional (on staff at the school or school district) who has reviewed the student's file to: 1) state under what circumstances extended time would be permitted for this student in school and the basis for providing that accommodation (include complete documentation – see "Guidelines for Documentation"; 2) explain why extended time is not currently provided; 3) explain why you believe extended time should be allowed on the ACT; 4) describe any assistance provided for this student outside of school, if known. Exceptions require additional time for review; please apply as early as possible. **School Official's Signature** I affirm the student named on this form attends the school where I work. I verify the information provided on this form and in the attached IEP, Section 405 Plan, accommodations plan, and supporting documentation is accurate, to the best of my knowledge, and reflects the test accommodations currently provided in school. School Official's Signature (not a relative of student) **Email Address** Print Official's Name, Title, and School Telephone number (include area code)

Side 2: Sections G through J must be completed by a qualified individual (not a relative) who can provide verified documentation of the student's diagnosed impairment and current test accommodations at the school due to the diagnosis. This is normally a school official such as a