

Important Information About Your School's ACT Aspire™ Score Results

Thank you for your participation in the ACT Aspire spring 2013 studies. Because of the work required to create the score scales, set the readiness benchmarks, equate the different forms, evaluate the administration conditions, and other analyses needed to prepare for the 2014 launch, it has taken us awhile to report your scores back, and we are grateful for your patience.

The accompanying roster provides ACT Aspire scale scores for every student who met the attemptedness criteria. For example, if Jon Doe were administered 3rd grade reading and 3rd grade science, he will have three-digit ACT Aspire scores in the Reading and Science columns, but no scores in the Mathematics, English, Writing, or Composite columns.

The Composite score is calculated based on a student's English, Reading, Mathematics, and Science scores. If a student has not achieved scores in all four subject areas, no Composite score is computed.

You will receive a separate roster for each participating grade that was assessed. If you tested 11th- or 12th-grade students, their scores on the roster are based on their standard ACT multiple-choice battery and the additional constructed response sections in Reading, Mathematics, and Science. Their Writing scores are based on the 2–12 scale currently used for the ACT Writing test. These students received standard ACT score reports several months ago. Students are listed alphabetically, within grade level.

Summary of Subject Assessments

ACT Aspire English Tests assess students' developed ability to revise and edit texts. A typical English test contains several stimuli, or texts, and a series of items, or questions. Texts used in the assessments represent various content areas (including English language arts, the humanities, and the social and natural sciences), and, considered collectively, reflect a range of text complexity levels from simple to complex, as appropriate for students' age and educational attainment.

ACT Aspire Reading Tests contain several passages, including literary narratives (prose fiction, memoirs, personal essays) and informational texts (social science, natural science). Within and across grade levels, the passages span a range of complexity levels in order to provide students, teachers, and parents with information about how well students understand texts of increasing difficulty. Students answer a series of multiple choice, technology enhanced (computer-based delivery only), and constructed response items in order to assess their abilities to recognize meaning in, reason logically about, and make connections between and among texts.



ACT Aspire Mathematics Tests are rigorous, assessing what students can do with what they’ve learned, with questions carefully selected from the full range of grade-appropriate content, requiring a variety of cognitive skills that fill depth-of-knowledge categories up through Webb’s level 3.

ACT Aspire Science Tests focus on the assessment of science practices using real-world scientific scenarios. The scenarios in the upper-grade assessments include student investigations, formal scientific research, formal scientific data from references, and students or scientists providing competing explanations for real scientific phenomena. At the earlier grades, topics generally focus on everyday student discovery rather than formal science.

ACT Aspire Writing Assessments consist of 30-minute summative writing tasks for grades 3 through 8, plus early high school. They ask students at each grade level to respond in essay form to a single writing stimulus. The assessments are designed to provide a strong indication of whether students have the writing skills they will need to succeed as they begin work at their next grade level. Student responses are evaluated according to analytic rubrics that assess the generation, development, organization, and communication of ideas in standard written English.

Scores

Please keep in mind when interpreting these scores that scores on any assessment, including ACT Aspire, contain uncertainty. These scores are estimates, not precise measures, of educational achievement. The student’s actual achievement could be higher or lower than the scores shown. You will find more information on interpreting your scores in the forthcoming technical documentation.

The score ranges in parentheses under each subject test provide the minimum and maximum scale score for that grade and subject. For example, 3rd grade English scale scores range from 400 to 435, while 8th grade science scores range from 400 to 446.

College and career readiness is the cornerstone for the ACT Aspire system. The table below provides the readiness benchmarks for all ACT Aspire grades and subjects. Note that these values, like the ACT College Readiness Benchmarks on the ACT® college readiness assessment, are continually being monitored. This means the values below may be modified as longitudinal data on ACT Aspire becomes available, and as school curricula become more centered on the Common Core State Standards.

Grade	English	Reading	Mathematics	Science	Writing
3	413	415	413	418	428
4	417	417	416	420	428
5	419	420	418	422	428
6	420	421	420	423	428
7	421	423	422	425	428
8	422	424	425	427	428
9	426	425	428	430	428
10	428	428	432	432	428
11	433	430	435	435	—