



**November 5, 2025**

Dear Educators,

Please review the following information and reminders for this year's ACT administration. Share this email with all applicable testing staff.

### **ACT Testing Dates**

Testing dates for the spring 2026 ACT administration are posted on the [ACT Calendar Webpage](#) and on the [Wisconsin ACT Website](#).

### **NEW ACT Enhancements**

ACT has recently implemented new enhancements to the ACT and PreACT Secure assessments. The enhancements were designed to provide a more supportive and streamlined testing experience that is more accessible and actionable for students. The first statewide implementation of the new enhancements will be administered in spring 2026. For more information, review the [Enhanced ACT FAQ guide](#) and view the recording of the [October 22 ACT Office Hours](#).

### **NEW: Flexible Scheduling Policy**

ACT is now offering schools more flexibility in administering the ACT and PreACT Secure. In addition to the standard single day administration and schedule, schools now have the following options:

- Option 1: Administer the assessments in a single day with an optional extended break.
- Option 2: Administer the assessments over two days.

**Schools must choose only one option and schedule for ALL students.** For more information on this new policy, please review [ACT's Flexible Scheduling policy](#) and view the [recording of the October 22 Office Hours](#) on ACT and PreACT Secure enhancements.

### **PearsonAccessnext**

PearsonAccessnext (PAnext) is the ACT administration portal that is used to verify your student roster, order materials, and set up and run online testing. PAnext is now open, and DACs have been granted access to the ACT portal.

The following tasks can now be completed:

- Update user accounts, grant access to new testing staff and deactivate previous staff (DAC)
- Manage contact information (DAC or Test Coordinator)
- Verify shipping address

Resource: [PearsonAccess<sup>next</sup> User Guide for the ACT](#)

**Notes:** DACs are responsible for making sure appropriate testing staff have access to this website. The PreACT Secure portal will not open until January 26. DACs will be granted access to the PreACT Secure portal at that time.

### Selecting Testing Date and Mode

ACT is unable to capture your school's testing mode (paper/online) through the PearsonAccess<sup>next</sup> platform. To ensure DPI has your correct testing mode on file, ACT will send a survey to all school test coordinators and DACs on November 10, 2025 ([statetesting@operations.act.org](mailto:statetesting@operations.act.org)). Only one survey per school should be completed. **DACs and test coordinators should work together to determine who should complete this survey.**

The deadline for completing the survey is **December 19, 2025**. Contact [Nikki Braconier](#) if your school does not receive a survey link by November 17. Have the following selections and information ready when completing the survey:

- School selected testing date/window or reason not testing
- Testing mode (paper/online)
- Single day testing or two-day testing
- Shipping address
- Name and contact information of school technical coordinator

### ACT Accommodation Requests

Schools should be actively entering 2026 accommodation and support requests into the ACT Test Accessibility and Accommodations (TAA) portal. The deadline to submit accommodation requests is **January 28** for test window 1\*. DPI strongly recommends entering accommodations early to avoid delays in the approval process and allow time for ACT reconsideration requests if needed. All accommodation and support request resources can be found under [Step 3 on the Wisconsin ACT Website](#).

**Notes:** New for 2026 testing, ACT now has three separate accommodation deadlines, one for each testing window. You must complete all requests AND reconsiderations by the deadline. DPI recommends entering all accommodations by January 28, regardless of selected testing window.

### 2026 ACT Testing Resources

ACT will continue posting 2026 testing resources on the Wisconsin ACT Website. Familiarize yourself with the website and where to access testing resources.

Key resources now available include:

- Schedule of Events (important dates)
- What's New (step 1)

- PearsonAccessnext User Guide (Step 1)
- Technical Requirements (step 2)
- Technical Coordinator Checklist (step 2)
- Technical Guide (step 2)
- Accommodations and EL Supports (step 3)
- Administration manuals (step 5)
- Test Coordinator Information Manual (step 5)

**Training Opportunities:**

DPI and ACT are offering four Q&A webinar-based trainings and seven Wisconsin Office Hours this year. Visit the DPI ACT Trainings webpage to register for trainings. Q&A training webinars and Wisconsin Specific Office Hours are recorded and will be available for later viewing.