

CAREERS 360
ADMISSION GUIDANCE **Series**

American College Testing (ACT) Ebook

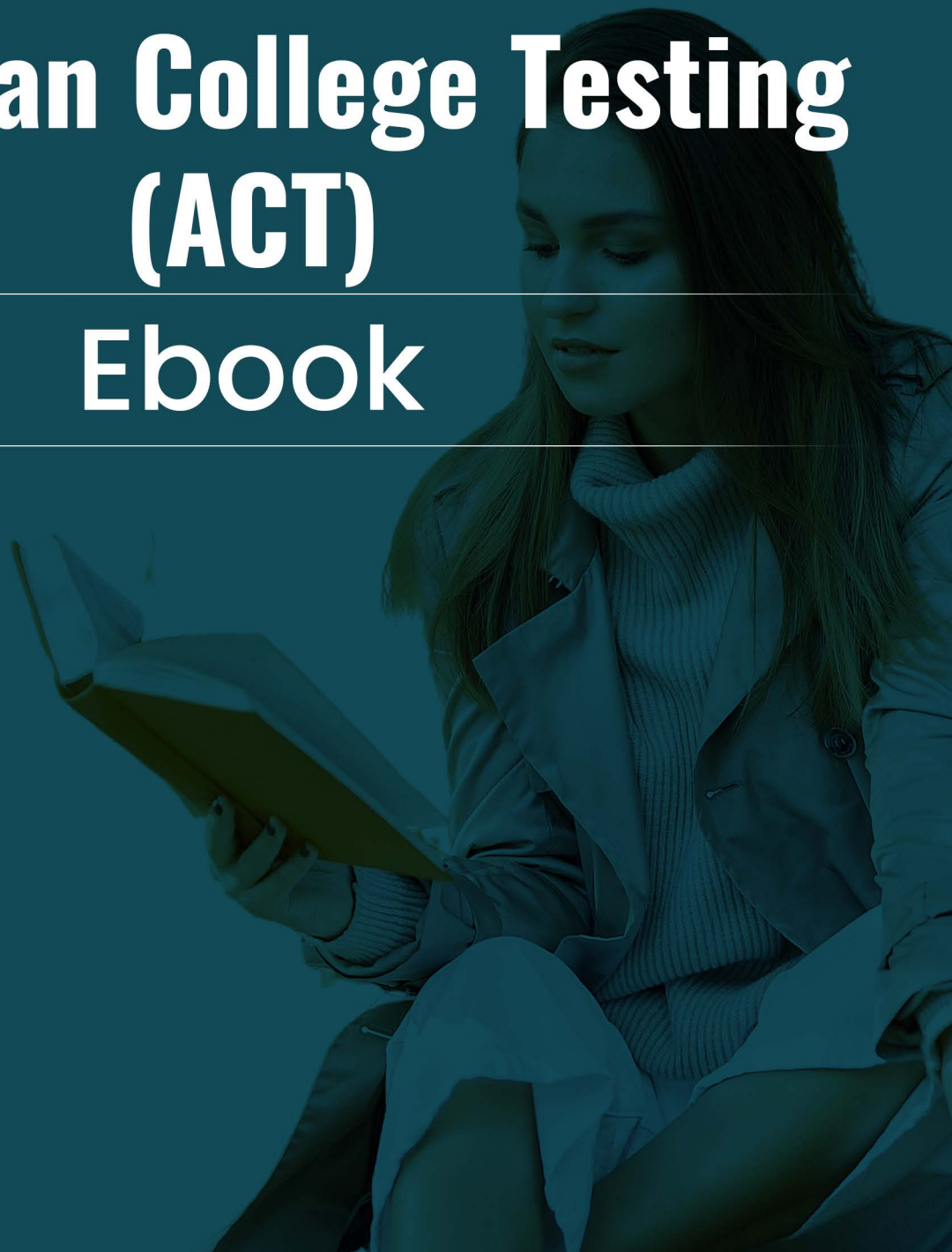


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Introduction

American College Testing or ACT is a popularly known international examination administered by the ACT, a non-profit organization. It is a standardized college entrance test in the United States of America and also for more than 200 universities outside the US. The purpose of conducting the ACT is to measure the knowledge of a high school student who is above 13 years old for admission to degree programs in the US. A sought-after college admission test, the ACT score is accepted by all four-year colleges and universities in the US and is valid for a period of five years. The test questions of the [ACT exam](#) are designed in a manner that they are directly relevant to the high school course content that the students are learning as a part of their academics such as English, Mathematics, Reading, and Science. Every day while students attend their regular classes they should also prepare for the ACT. The harder you work in school, the more prepared you will be for the test. ACT exam is conducted in two formats, namely ACT (without writing) and ACT (with writing). It is highly recommended that ACT aspirants check out this ebook by Careers360 to know more details as eligibility criteria, registration process, pattern, syllabus, exam centers, scores, and much more.

Latest Update - Starting from April 2025, the new changes listed below will be applicable for the ACT online test. From September 2025, these changes will be applicable for pen and paper ACT test.

ACT Update	New Details
Number of Questions	44 questions removed overall
ACT Duration	Now takes 125 minutes instead of 195
Time Per Question	You get more time to answer one question
Options Reduced	Math questions now have 4 choices instead of 5
Science Section Optional	You can choose to skip the science section (varies by state/school)

ACT Exam Highlights

Items	Details
Exam Name	ACT
Exam Level	International
Conducting Body	ACT(non-profit)
Widely Accepted	Almost all US colleges
Exam Dates	Seventimes nationally and five times internationally per year
Test Time	125 minutes
Test Sections	4 Sections - Math, Reading, Science and English
Score Range	1-36
Negative Marking	No



ACT Eligibility Criteria

According to the ACT exam conducting authority, there is no specific [ACT eligibility criteria](#) mentioned so far in order to appear for the ACT exam. Thus, the ACT exam can be attempted by people of all ages and grade levels. Students from any country can apply and appear for the ACT test. However, the eligibility of the institute they are applying to will be binding on them. Instead, a prospective candidate needs to meet the eligibility criteria of the individual college or university to which he or she will apply through ACT scores. However, the candidates need to meet the ACT eligibility requirements set by individual institutions/colleges/universities that they are applying to.

- The ACT exam is a college admission test that is usually taken by high school graduates and those above the age of 13 years.
- Candidates can take the ACT a maximum of 12 times.



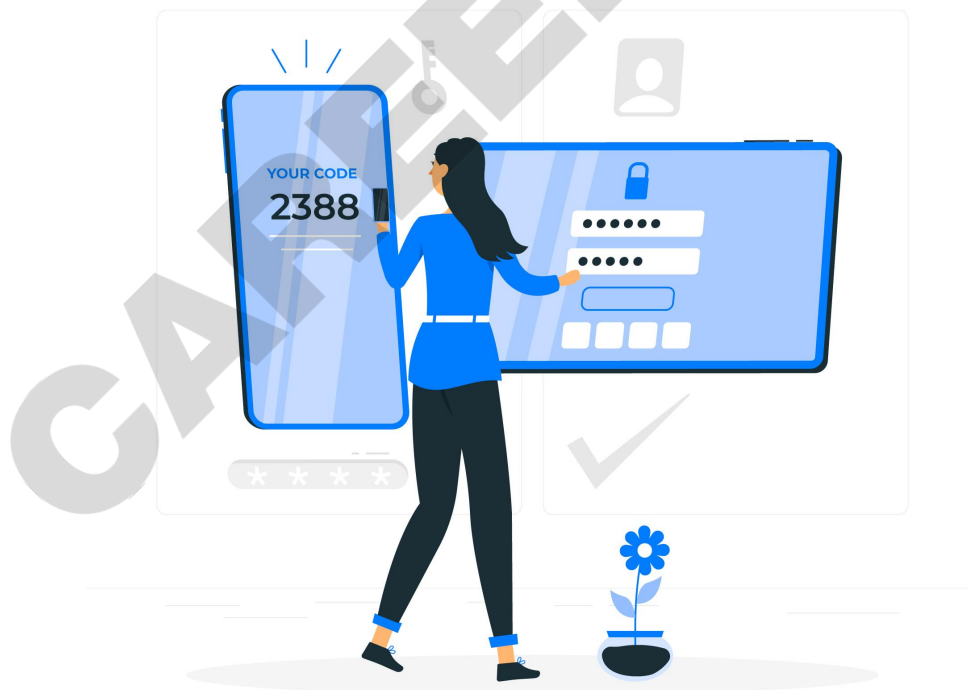
ACT Registration Process

Mode of Application: Online

Mode of Payment: Net Banking | Credit Card | Debit Card

The most common and fastest way [ACT registration](#) is through online mode, though students in the US have the option of registering by mail as well. The ACT test registration end dates are as per the exam dates. The step-by-step procedure to register for ACT test is as follows:

1. Click on your ACT account to register for ACT. Enter the name, date of birth, email, and mobile details
2. Log on to the ACT website after successful registration.
3. Choose a test session from the given ACT test dates.
4. Select a test center (international students). Students from the US or Puerto Rico must select a test center within the US.
5. Select the preferred dates from the given ACT test dates.
6. Upload the photograph and pay the ACT test fees via debit card, credit card, or net banking.



ACT Test Fees

Details of Fees	International
ACT (no writing)	\$186.50
ACT with writing	\$236.50
Late fee	\$38.00
Score for 5th and 6th college	\$18.00 for each
Test date change	\$44.00
Test center change (same test date)	\$44.00



ACT Test Dates

The ACT is scheduled seven times a year in September, October, December, February, April, June, and July. There are several [ACT test dates](#) in these months. However, in New York State, the test is not offered in the month of July. In other locations, the ACT is offered five times a year: in September, October, December, April, and June. The ACT is offered only on Saturdays except for those with credible religious obligations, who may take the test on another day. The ACT test is conducted annually on seven national and international test dates.



ACT Exam Centres

There are multiple [ACT exam centres](#) all around India.

State	City
Gujarat	Ahmedabad
	Vadodara
Rajasthan	Ajmer
	Jaipur
Uttar Pradesh	Allahabad
	Lucknow
	Meerut
	Noida
Karnataka	Varanasi
	Bangalore
Odisha	Bhubaneswar
Tamil Nadu	Chennai
	Kodaikanal
	Madurai
Uttarakhand	Dehradun
Delhi	New Delhi
Haryana	Gurgaon
Telangana	Hyderabad
Madhya Pradesh	Indore
Jammu and Kashmir	Jammu
West Bengal	Kolkata
Punjab	Mohali
Maharashtra	Mumbai
	Nagpur
	Pune
Andhra Pradesh	Vijayawada

ACT Exam Pattern

[ACT exam pattern](#) comprises 4 sections, and all four sections consist of multiple choice questions (MCQs) with either four or five choices. The ACT Writing section is an optional section that comprises a single essay question. The exam pattern of ACT is given below.

ACT Exam Pattern

Section	Duration	No. of Questions	Number of answer options
English	45 minutes	75	Four-choice, multiple-choice usage/mechanics and rhetorical skills questions
Mathematics	60 minutes	60	Multiple-choice questions with four or five choices
Reading	35 minutes	40	Multiple-choice referring and reasoning questions with four or five choices
Science	35 minutes	40	Four-choices for one question, multiple-choice data representation, research summaries, and conflicting viewpoints questions
Total questions	175 minutes	215 questions	-
Writing	40 minutes	1 essay	One writing prompt

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ACT Result

Results of ACT test are generally available online by the end of 2 weeks from the date of the test but in some cases may also take up to 8 weeks. Scores for the writing section are available 2 weeks after the scores for the multiple-choice sections are available. Students who have given the writing test cannot send the other remaining scores to their prospective universities without the writing test scores.

ACT Test Scores

The [ACT test scores](#) is a composite score which is calculated on a 1 – 36 point scale. The composite score is evaluated from the scores for mathematics, science, STEM, English, reading, writing and ELA. Scores for the individual categories are evaluated on a scale of 1 – 36 except for the writing score which is evaluated on a 2 – 12 point scale.

The STEM score is the average of the scores in mathematics and science whereas the ELA score is the average of the scores in English, reading, and writing. If the candidate has not taken the writing test, then no ELA score is reported.

The ACT score report also contains the student ranking as well as prospective majors for the student based on his or her score.

