

ACT[®] **Aspire™** Spring 2014 Study For Grades 3-10

Registration Deadline: December 31, 2013

Testing Window: April 1-18, 2014

We would like to give your school district the opportunity to participate in a national study being conducted in April 2014. By participating in this study, your district will qualify for Early Adoption Pricing for ACT Aspire™, the new assessment system that connects student growth and progress from elementary grades through high school.

To ensure the quality of these assessments, we seek to partner with education professionals to build a highly informative set of solutions that educators and students can use to prepare for college and career.

Benefits of Participating

The ACT Aspire Spring 2014 Study will give your students the opportunity to experience ACT Aspire assessments before test day. They will also have the chance to improve their computer delivered test-taking skills and become more comfortable with the format. Students will become more familiar with the item types, including constructed response, selected response, and technology enhanced items.

Schools and districts will also benefit from participating by getting a head start on your transition to the new ACT Aspire Assessment System. By participating in the study, districts will qualify for the Early Adoption Price for two years.

ACT Aspire is linked to ACT College Readiness Benchmarks and aligned with Common Core State Standards.

ACT Aspire™

Launching in April 2014, ACT Aspire is a computer-based, longitudinal assessment system that connects growth and progress from elementary grades through high school in the context of college and career readiness.

*More information about
ACT Aspire can be found at
www.discoveractaspire.org*

Study Requirements

This national study involves testing students in grades 3-10 in up to five subject areas: English, reading, math, science, and writing, to any or all students in grades 3-10. ACT will assign two additional subject tests to be administered as part of the Spring Study. These assigned subject tests must be completed before the ACT Aspire subject tests in the assessment battery.

Tests may be administered at any time during the testing window of April 1 -18, 2014 and do not need to be administered in one sitting. Subject tests will be administered online, using school-provided desktop computers and laptops, or with paper and pencil. The additional tests assigned for the Spring Study by ACT are computer-based only.

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Time Requirements

Testing time requirements will vary by grade level and number of subject tests administered. It will take approximately 30 to 60 minutes for each subject area test; total testing time for each student will depend on the number and type of subject area tests completed.

The additional assigned assessments will take 40 minutes each.

System Requirements

The ACT Aspire assessment system will not require the installation of software on a local PC or Mac. ACT Aspire will support current releases of major operating systems and browsers. A specific list of supported versions will continue to evolve.

	PC/WINDOWS	MAC
Processor	1.6 GHz x86-compatible	Intel Core Duo 1.83 GHz (only Intel Macs are supported)
RAM	512 MB RAM	1 GB RAM
Operating System	Windows XP (SP3) Vista Windows 7 & 8	MAC OS X 10.5 or higher
Web Browser	IE 8, 9, & 10 Firefox (currently supported version) Chrome (currently supported version)	Safari 4.0, 5.0, & 6.0
Minimum Screen Resolution	1024x768	1024x768
Network Speed	At least 100 MBPS at school and at least 10 kBPS per student testing	At least 100 MBPS at school and at least 10 kBPS per student testing

All devices must have the administrative tools and capabilities to temporarily disable features, functionalities, and applications that could present a security risk during test administration including, but not limited to:

- Unrestricted Internet access
- Cameras (still and video)
- Screen capture (live and recorded)
- Email and instant message
- Bluetooth connections
- Application switching and printing

How to Participate

Contact your Account Manager by December 31, 2013 to see if you qualify for the ACT Aspire Spring 2014 Study and the Early Adoption Price.