Success Spans Beyond Academics

Preparing for college, careers, and life requires a diverse set of knowledge and skills.



The holistic model of education and work success

CORE ACADEMIC SKILLS English Language Arts Mathematics Science CROSS-CUTTING CAPABILITIES Information and Communication Technology Collaborative Problem Solving Thinking Skills Learning Skills BEHAVIORAL SKILLS Acting Honestly Getting Along with Others Keeping an Open Mind Maintaining Composure Social Connection Sustaining Effort EDUCATION & CAREER NAVIGATION Self-Knowledge Environmental Factors Integration Managing Career & Education Actions

In the early 2000s, it was clear that earning a high school diploma did not ensure readiness for postsecondary experience. In fact, research and policy reports showed the opposite.

While definitions of college and career readiness tend to focus primarily on academic factors, research has actually found that there is more to readiness and success than just academics.

The ACT[®] Holistic Framework[™] is a deep and broad survey of what people need to know to be able (and willing) to do to achieve education and work success at any age.

Learn more at act.org/holisticframework



Beyond the Test

ACT is about more than just the ACT[®] test. We offer a continuum of tools and services designed to give a clearer, more holistic picture of college and career readiness as well as strategies for how to improve. Our products and services are informed by the ACT[®] Holistic Framework[™] and help people of all ages achieve education and workplace success.



