

What are the Differences between Testing Options?

Through State or District testing, your school may administer the ACT[®] test on paper or online.

Use the chart below to understand differences between the options.

	Paper	Online
What subjects are included?	The ACT consists of four multiple-choice subtests: English, mathematics, reading, and science. If part of your testing program, the ACT writing test is also available.	
Is the same content covered?	Yes, each testing option contains the same number of items and covers the same content.	
How many testing opportunities are available?	One initial test date and one makeup test date for standard time testing and a two-week window for accommodations and supports. Examinees who miss the initial test administration may test during the makeup administration.	Six weekday test dates within a 2-week period. Examinees who miss a scheduled test date may test on one of the other available dates within the window.
What are the different testing staff roles?	Testing staff are: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Test coordinator • Room supervisors • Proctors • Technical coordinator—for online testing only 	
What is the role of the technical coordinator?	This is not applicable.	The technical coordinator ensures the school's computers and network are ready for testing.
How are test questions delivered?	There is a test booklet for the multiple-choice subtests, and, if part of your testing program, a separate test booklet for the writing test.	The test coordinator sets up a test session which includes multiple-choice subtests, and, if part of your testing program, the writing test.
Are carrels, dividers, or partitions allowed?	No.	Yes.

Requirements for an Online Administration

To test online, your school needs to:

- Appoint a technical coordinator.
- Meet hardware, software, and other technical requirements defined by ACT by completing site readiness steps.
- Install and use proctor caching as defined by ACT in *The ACT Technical Guide for Online Testing*.
- Use the installable TestNav app for testing.

If your school does not meet technical requirements during site readiness or install ProctorCache software, ACT will switch your administration from online to paper. See the *Schedule of Events* on your program's webpage for dates and deadlines.

Note: See the technical requirements web page at www.act.org/stateanddistrict/onlinetesting for the Technical Guide and other information about online testing.