Social and Emotional Learning (SEL) has the potential to transform the success and wellness of students from grade school through career. Strong personal skills help individuals succeed in school, at work, and throughout life. Evidence suggests that SEL skills can be easier to improve than academic ones.

SEL SKILLS IMPACT:
- Academic Performance
- Behavioral Problems
- Happiness
- Health
- Longevity
- Job Performance
- Job Satisfaction
- Peer Relationships

“This [ACT® Tessera®] assessment may be the most important thing we do to prepare them for, not just high school graduation, but college completion.”

Eve Rifkin
Director of College Access
City High School, Tucson AZ
No matter what terminology you use—the whole child, social emotional learning, soft skills, character strengths, inter- and intra-personal competencies, skills for success, noncognitive skills, or 21st-century competencies—you’ve probably been hearing more and more about these critically important student capacities in recent years.

It’s indisputable that there’s an emerging and resounding consensus among researchers and educators alike that they matter—a lot. They matter for success in school, in college, in careers, and in life satisfaction and fulfillment.

“First and foremost, academic leaders need to ensure that every educator understands that his or her job is to identify and work to close the inevitable gaps between mission and reality, between desired learning results and actual performances by students on measures that matter.”

**Schooling by Design** framework from Wiggins and McTighe (Wiggins & McTighe, 2007)

**ACT HOLISTIC FRAMEWORK:**

Shifts in education and the workplace have changed how we think about college and career readiness. The ACT Holistic Framework provides a more complete description of the knowledge and skills individuals need to know and be able to do to succeed at school and at work.

The framework includes four key domains:
- Core academic skills
- Cross-cutting capabilities
- Behavioral skills
- Education and career navigation

**ACT.ORG/HOLISTICFRAMEWORK**

**STUDENT GROWTH:**

Research shows that instruction in social and emotional skills results in improved academic achievement and greater workforce preparedness.

**23%**  
Increase in SEL Skills

**11%**  
Increase in standardized test scores

**EDUCATORS WEIGH IN:**

**IN SCHOOL**
77% of all teachers say SEL will improve academic performance

**AT WORK**
87% believe SEL will be a major benefit in preparing students for the workforce

**IN LIFE**
87% believe SEL will help students become good citizens

**ECONOMIC BENEFITS:**

On average, every $1 invested in SEL programs yields $11 in long-term benefits, ranging from reduced juvenile crime, higher lifetime earnings, and better mental and physical health.

| $ | $ | $ | $ | $ |

**ACT**

**Tessera**

Helping students grow their personal skills means knowing where they stand today. ACT® Tessera® measures 6th–12th grade students’ SEL skills and school climate to identify strengths and areas for improvement.

**WHY TESSERA?**
- Comprehensive assessment system measuring five important SEL skills plus school climate
- Recommended resources and strategies to address areas requiring increased focus
- Easy to administer online and requires no special or time-consuming preparation
- Three different methodologies go beyond self-reporting to yield more reliable, valid results
- Reports deliver data to strengthen and support student self-knowledge, goal-setting, and growth mindset
- Each student receives a personal profile report
- The 30 minute assessment can be taken at any time during the school year.

**ACT.ORG/TESSERA**

**ACT**

**Engage College**

Graduating students means identifying and helping those at risk of dropping out. ACT® Engage® College measures the critical attitudes and behaviors that contribute to successful college completion.

**YOU CAN USE ENGAGE COLLEGE IN MANY WAYS:**
- To provide key information about students’ motivation, self-regulation, and social engagement
- To reveal levels of academic self-confidence, commitment to college, and social activity with scaled reporting
- To identify students who are in need of intervention and at risk of dropping out
- To adjust course curriculum or create immediate, individualized approach for interventions as early as the first semester during freshman year
- To measure students’ SEL skills during orientation or first-year programs—the 30-minute online assessment easily integrates across campuses and testing centers

**ACT.ORG/ENGAGECOLLEGE**

**ACT TESSERA MEASURES:**

- GRIT
- TEAMWORK
- RESILIENCE
- CURIOSITY
- LEADERSHIP
- SCHOOL CLIMATE

“...The psychosocial skills measured by ACT Engage matter because they give a sense of what’s going on with the whole person. When you bring multiple variables into account, you have a model that give you a predictive power beyond grades or test scores.”

Dr. Robert Dunbar
Associate Professor
University of Minnesota Rochester

**ACT.ORG/HOLISTICFRAMEWORK**