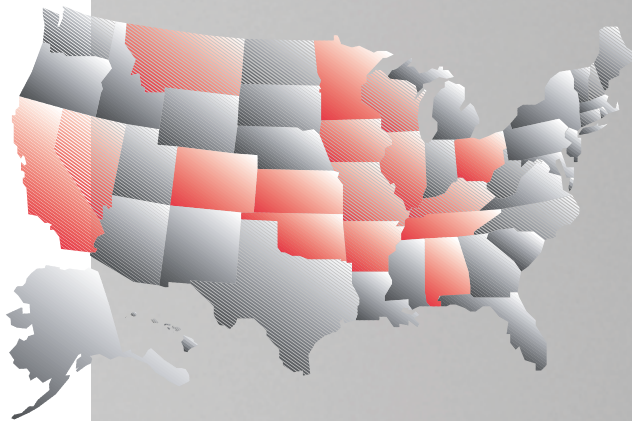


# ACT State Organizations

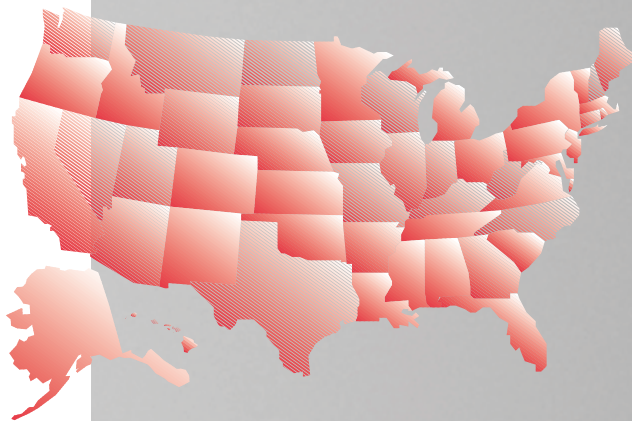
*Fifty Years—1959 to 2009*

1959



ACT

2009



ACT<sup>®</sup>



MISSOURI

---

**ACT<sup>®</sup>**

FIFTY YEARS 1959 | 2009

*“Building a community of educators helping people achieve education and workplace success.”*

This is the mission statement of the ACT State Organizations, which have been crucial to ACT’s growth as a provider of solutions that promote education and workforce readiness for individuals around the world. ACT’s management and staff have relied heavily on the network for advice both for ensuring that ACT’s programs and services remain relevant to the needs of students, schools, and colleges, and for designing new services responsive to the ever-changing challenges faced by those charged with preparing the nation’s people for education and workplace success.

The ACT State Organizations, consisting primarily of individuals in secondary and postsecondary institutions, have been in existence since ACT was founded in 1959. The network is widely credited with providing an effective communication channel for ensuring the relevance of ACT’s services.

### **Building a Network**

The State Organizations were at the heart of ACT’s initial organizational structure. In 1959, ACT founders E.F. Lindquist and Ted McCarrel began organizing their professional colleagues—full-time employees of colleges and universities—into a network that would lay the foundation for the State Organizations.

The 16 states that joined in 1959 were Alabama, Arkansas, California, Colorado, Illinois, Iowa, Kansas, Kentucky, Minnesota, Missouri, Montana, Nevada, Ohio, Oklahoma, Tennessee, and Wisconsin. By the end of the school year, they were joined by Alaska, Idaho, and North Dakota.

The first ACT state coordinators were paid advisors who had direct involvement with ACT’s organization and development. Among their duties were communicating with high schools and colleges in their states; distributing materials such as announcements, publicity pieces, and registration forms to secondary and postsecondary institutions in their states; securing test facilities; handling registration forms; collecting fees; and forwarding reports to high schools and colleges. They also organized state advisory committees that eventually evolved into the State Organizations.

Upon ACT’s founding, McCarrel appointed regional directors to help State Organizations promote the ACT® test. By the time the first ACT test administration occurred in November 1959, the company had successfully recruited colleges and universities across the country to use ACT scores for college admissions.

In 1961, state coordinators became unpaid volunteers, serving as the governing body of and providing guidance to the organization. In subsequent years, steering committees were created. The role of the state coordinator evolved into that of state representative, a position that was either elected or appointed. When ACT established a 15-member Board of Trustees in 1965, state representatives filled eight of the seats,

giving State Organizations representation on the board. Also, new guidelines were created to determine how states could participate in the State Organization network.

### **Broadening the Scope**

In July 2003, a task force was established to redefine the role of the State Organizations following changes to ACT’s governing structure. Prior to that time, many of the State Organizations worked primarily with postsecondary institutions. While ACT’s college admissions and placement exam continued to gain in popularity, ACT had expanded its scope to incorporate new audiences, including secondary educators, workforce professionals, and government administrators at the state and federal levels. As a result, ACT needed to broaden the composition and the role of its State Organizations. In 2004, the ACT Board of Directors adopted the recommendations of the task force. They included:

- Adopting a common statement of purpose for the State Organizations
- Developing and implementing an annual plan of work based on strategic objectives
- Adopting a set of principles addressing the organizational structure and membership of the State Organizations
- Updating the role of the state representative to emphasize the position’s leadership responsibilities
- Designing and implementing a State Organization leadership development program

### **State Organizations Today**

As of ACT’s 50th anniversary in 2009, all 50 states are represented through the 44 ACT state and regional organizations across the country. These organizations have more than 8,000 members, and nearly 6,000 individuals attend the annual conferences. Generally, ACT State Organizations are led by a Council and an Executive Committee consisting of a State Representative, Chairperson, Chair-Elect, Past Chair, and Secretary.

Today, members of State Organizations provide advice and support to ACT. Their duties include:

- Serving as a communication link between educational institutions and agencies and ACT
- Coordinating and facilitating statewide professional development activities related to ACT’s mission
- Providing feedback on the utility and effectiveness of ACT programs and services
- Assisting ACT regional staff in identifying state service needs
- Providing input and advice on future ACT programs and services
- Identifying exemplary applications of ACT programs and services

# ACT STATE ORGANIZATIONS

## MISSION

Building a community of educators helping people achieve education and workforce success

## STATEMENT OF PURPOSE

ACT state organizations support and promote informed decision making by:

- Individuals engaged in education and career planning, preparation for further education and work, and lifelong learning
- Parties who are making or influencing decisions by those individuals

## The Missouri ACT State Organization

In 1959, Missouri became one of the first states to create an ACT State Organization. Richard M. Keefe, then director of admissions at Saint Louis University, was appointed by ACT as a state coordinator and was very active in the promotion and development of ACT programs up to the formulation of the Missouri ACT State Organization in 1960. A reorganization took place in 1967, and H.E. Mueller, director of admissions at the University of Missouri–St. Louis, was elected as Missouri’s first ACT State Representative.

Today, the Missouri ACT State Organization sponsors an annual conference that draws more than 250 participants from across the state and has a membership of more than 400 secondary and postsecondary educators. It presents the ACT 36er Award to Missouri high schools with one or more students achieving a top score of 36 and honors, with the Red Quill Award, middle and high schools that have done an exceptional job of implementing and integrating the use of ACT’s college readiness assessments.

Additionally, the Missouri ACT State Organization Council has developed the Missouri ShowMe Award, given annually to a secondary or postsecondary institution that champions student needs in exemplary ways and improves learning through innovative uses of ACT programs and services.

## Past Missouri ACT State Representatives

1959–1966	Richard Keefe, Director of Admissions, St. Louis University
1967–1969	H.E. Mueller, Director of Admissions and Registrar, University of Missouri–St. Louis
1970–1974	Charles Thate, Provost, Northwest Missouri State University
1975–1979	Lyle Leisenring, Director of Admissions and Records, Southwest Missouri State University
1979–1985	Wayne Newman, Director of Financial Aids, Northeast Missouri State University
1985–1997	Gary Smith, Director of Admissions and Registrar, University of Missouri–Columbia
1997–2000	Russell McCampbell, Assistant Commissioner for Vocational and Adult Education, State Department of Elementary and Secondary Education
2000–2003	Robert Larivee, Director, Resource Network for Effective Training
2004–2009	Jay Goff, Vice Provost and Dean of Enrollment Management, Missouri University of Science and Technology

State Representatives are elected by the members of the State Organization to serve a term of three years, serving no more than three full consecutive terms.

State Representatives’ duties and responsibilities include:

- Serving as a voting member of the Executive Committee and the Council
- Representing the views and interests of members of the State Organization
- Facilitating communications between ACT staff in its regional and national office and the members of the State Organization
- Reporting to the members of the State Organization on significant developments regarding ACT programs and services



## Missouri Colleges and Universities That Have Accepted the ACT Since 1959

Columbia College  
Conception Seminary College  
Drury University  
Evangel University  
Hannibal–LaGrange College  
Missouri Valley College  
Northwest Missouri State University  
Park University  
Rockhurst University  
Saint Louis University  
Truman State University  
Webster University  
William Jewell College

### Current Missouri ACT State Organization Council\*

#### *ACT State Representative*

Jay Goff  
Dean of Enrollment Management  
Missouri University of Science and  
Technology

#### *Chairperson*

Shani Lenore-Jenkins  
Assistant Vice President of Enrollment  
Maryville University of St. Louis

#### *Chair-Elect*

Bragg Stanley  
Director of Guidance  
Department of Elementary and  
Secondary Education

#### *Past Chair*

Regina Morin  
Associate Vice President for Enrollment  
Management  
Truman State University

#### *Secretary*

Laura Nelson, Ed.D.  
Assistant Director of Assessment and  
District Program Evaluation  
St. Joseph School District

#### *ACT Liaison*

Rick Bryant  
Senior Consultant, Assessment  
ACT Midwest Region

Carolyn Blair  
College Counselor  
Clayton High School

Rick Cowart  
Senior Associate Director  
Baker University

Marcia Fields  
Director of Admissions and  
Recruitment  
Three Rivers Community College

Jeremy Kintzel  
Research Associate  
Missouri Department of Higher  
Education

Ann Korschgen  
Vice Provost for Enrollment  
Management  
University of Missouri–Columbia

Janece Martin  
Director of Vocational Programming  
Rolla Public School District

Kevin O'Toole

Director of Counseling Services  
St. John Vianney High School

MelaDee Patterson  
Guidance Counselor  
Park Hill South High School

Bev Schenkel  
Dean of Enrollment Management  
Northwest Missouri State University

Derek Skaggs  
Director of Admissions  
Missouri Southern State University

Teresa Wheeler  
Director of Guidance  
Brentwood High School

Jeffrey R. Williams, Ph.D.  
Vice President of Higher Education  
Kauffman Scholars, Inc.

\* As of May 2009

