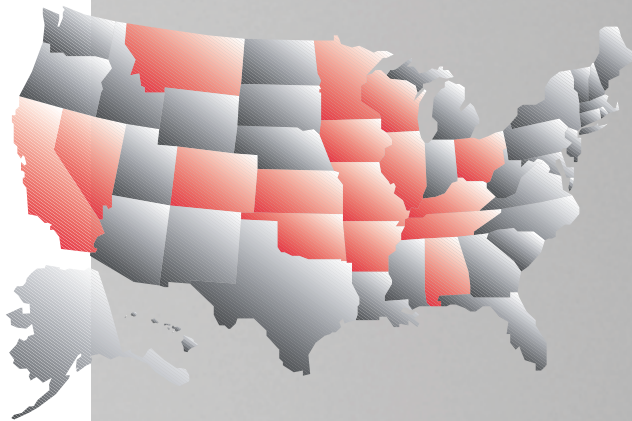


ACT State Organizations

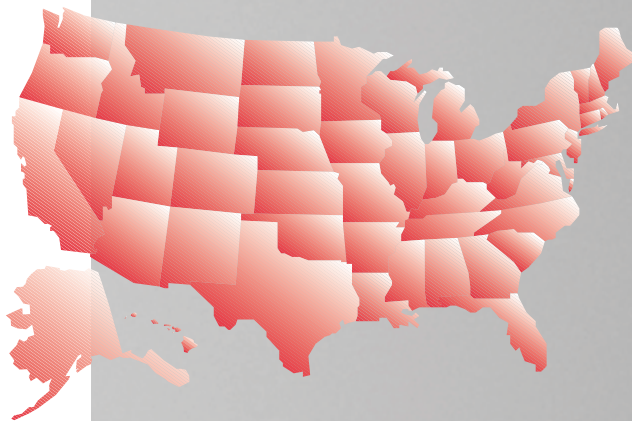
Fifty Years—1959 to 2009

1959



ACT

2009



ACT®



NEVADA

ACT®

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 Nevada ACT State Organization

In 1959, the year of ACT's founding, ACT cofounder McCarrel appointed Samuel Basta, then dean of student affairs at the University of Nevada, as the first Nevada ACT state coordinator. This was the same year during which the Advisory Committee of the University of Nevada Testing Program was founded. Informational meetings were held throughout the year, informing Nevada educators about the ACT. By the fall, the test had the full approval of 17 secondary schools and the University of Nevada, giving the test statewide acceptance as a college admissions tool.

Today, the Nevada ACT State Organization is involved in many initiatives, including:

- Supporting the need for strong academic preparation to increase achievement for all Nevada students
- Ensuring students' transition to college without remediation
- Supporting the creation of a college-going culture for all Nevada students
- Promoting college and workforce readiness and success through K-16 professional development opportunities



Past Nevada ACT State Representatives

1959–1965	Samuel Basta, Dean of Student Affairs, University of Nevada
1966–1972	Robert Whittemore, Jr., Dean of General University Extension, University of Nevada at Reno
1972–1978	Dallas Norton, Assistant to the Athletic Director, University of Nevada
1978–1980	Robert Glennen, Jr., Vice President for Educational Services/Academic Affairs, University of Nevada, Las Vegas
1981–1984	Ronald Martin, Dean of Educational Services, Western Nevada Community College
1985–1999	Karen Steinberg, Senior Deputy to the Chancellor, University and Community College System of Nevada
1999–2003	Sherwin Iverson, Associate Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs, Student Affairs, and Director of Institutional Research, University and Community College System of Nevada
2003–2005	Tyler Trevor, Assistant Vice Chancellor for Academic and Student Affairs and Director of Institutional Research, University and Community College System of Nevada
2006–2009	Crystal Abba, Assistant Vice Chancellor, Academic and Student Affairs and Director of Public Policy, Nevada System of Higher Education

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

Nevada Colleges and Universities That Have Accepted the ACT Since 1959

University of Nevada, Reno
University of Nevada, Las Vegas

Current Nevada ACT State Organization Council*

ACT State Representative

Crystal Abba
Assistant Vice Chancellor
Nevada System of Higher Education

Chairperson

Ralph Cadwallader
Executive Director
Nevada Association of School
Administrators

Chair-Elect

Brian Myli
Counselor Specialist
Clark County School District

Secretary

Charlotte Curtis
Director
Nevada State GEAR UP

ACT Liaison

Stacey Ellmore
Senior Consultant
ACT West Region

Kim Boyle
Director of Guidance and Counseling
Services
Clark County School District

William Cathey
Vice Provost, Instruction and
Undergraduate Programs
University of Nevada, Reno

Dan Fox
Superintendent
Pershing County School District

Denise Hedrick
Executive Director
Education Alliance of Washoe County

Steve Maples
Director of Admission, Enrollment
Services
Office for Prospective Students
University of Nevada, Reno

Bernie McConnell
Director of Admissions
Sierra Nevada College

Caroline McIntosh
Superintendent
Lyon County School District

Ty Moore
Director, Admissions and Registrar
Truckee Meadows Community College

Keith Rheault
Superintendent of Public Instruction
Nevada Department of Education

Luke Schultheis
Executive Director of Admissions and
Recruitment
University of Nevada, Las Vegas

Barbara Stewart
College Counselor
Bishop Gorman High School

Charity Varnado
Principal
Mojave High School

* As of May 2009

