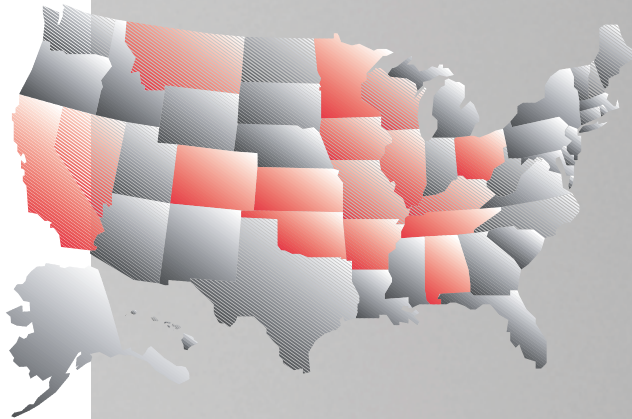


# ACT State Organizations

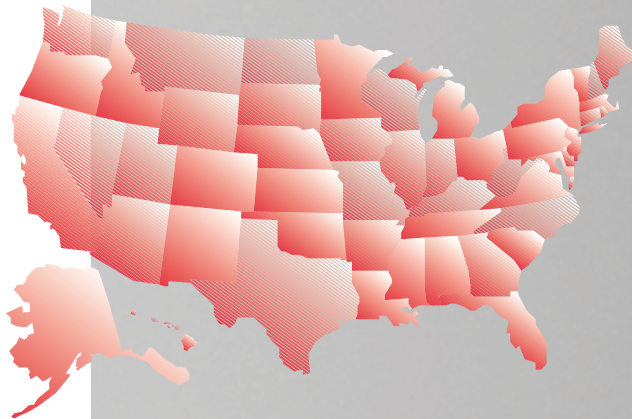
*Fifty Years—1959 to 2009*

1959

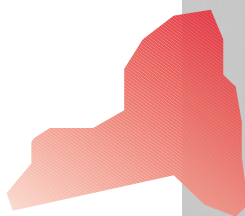


ACT

2009



ACT<sup>®</sup>



NEW YORK

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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 New York ACT State Organization

The New York ACT State Organization is one of the oldest in the region, dating back to 1972. It provides educational support to schools and colleges. ACT solutions offer many ways to do this, and the State Organization has made increasing the awareness of these tools a top priority for the state. The State Organization is also looking for ways to recognize students who do exceptionally well on ACT assessments. WorkKeys® is an important ACT tool for the New York workforce.

## Past New York ACT State Representatives

1972	William Allen, Jr., Director of Admissions, Skidmore College
1973–1975	Conrad Sharrow, Director of Admissions, St. Lawrence University
1976–1988	Harry Wood, Vice President, Admissions and Enrollment Planning, Marist College
1988–1991	Doug Steele, Director of Admissions, Suffolk County Community College
1991–1997	David Truax, Associate Vice Chancellor for Access Services, State University of New York–Central Administration
1997–2009	James Miller, Senior Vice President, Enrollment Management and Career Services, Rochester Institute of 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



## Current New York ACT State Organization Council\*

### *ACT State Representative*

Randy J. Asher  
Principal  
Brooklyn Technical High School

Eulas G. Boyd  
Assistant Provost for Diversity, Academic  
Affairs  
Rochester Institute of Technology

Hazel M. Shaw  
College Guidance Counselor  
James Madison High School

### *Chair*

Tom Hadlick  
Director, WorkKeys Center  
University College of Syracuse University

Patricia Cleary  
Director, College Office  
Stuyvesant High School

Barbara Trimarco  
Guidance Director and College  
Counseling  
St. Anthony's High School

### *Chair-Elect*

Margarita Mayo  
Director  
New York Coalition for Education  
Reform and Accountability

Richard Collins  
Assistant Principal and Director  
of Guidance  
Syosset High School

\* As of May 2009

### *Past Chair*

James Murphy  
University Dean for Enrollment  
City University of New York Enrollment  
Services

Ralph Donnell  
Director of Guidance  
Clarkstown High School South

Barbara F. Hall  
Associate Vice Provost for Admissions  
and Financial Aid  
New York University

### *ACT Liaison*

Larry Rich  
Assistant Vice President and Regional  
Manager  
ACT Northeast Region

Margaret M. Moree  
Director of Federal Affairs  
The Business Council of New York State

Vincent J. Angrisani  
Executive Director of Admissions  
Queens College

Kathleen Quirk  
Associate Dean for Instructional Support  
and Retention  
Hudson Valley Community College

