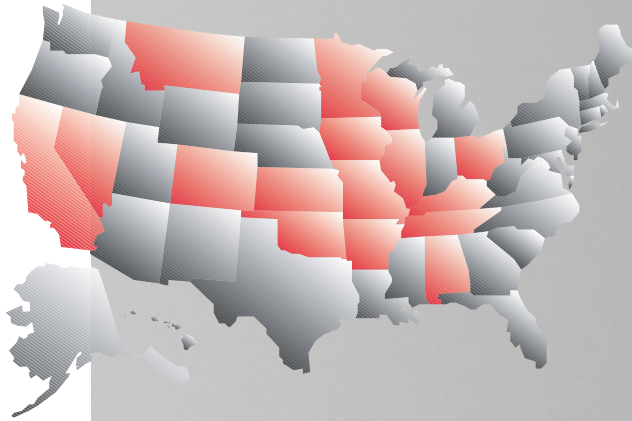


ACT State Organizations

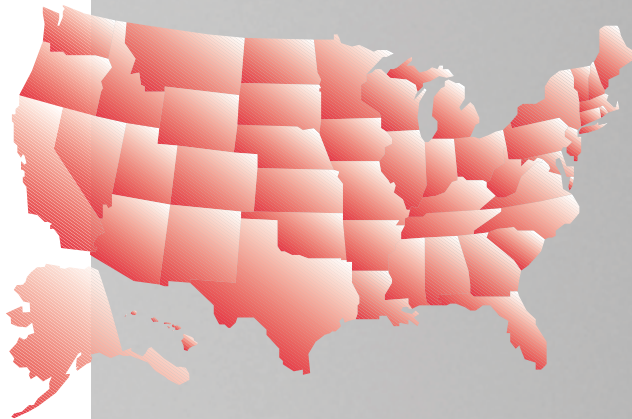
Fifty Years—1959 to 2009

1959



ACT

2009



ACT[®]



OREGON

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

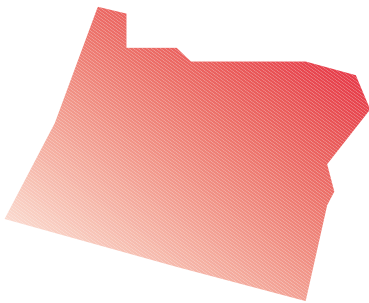
ACT state organizations support and promote informed decision making by:

- 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 Oregon ACT State Organization

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

- Providing college and workplace readiness information to stakeholders
- Promoting and supporting ACT programs in Oregon
- Promoting and supporting Oregon University System regional counselor conferences



Past Oregon ACT State Representatives

- 1972–1974 Robert Peck, Assistant Director, Oregon Educational Coordinating Council
- 1975–1976 Gary Edelbrock, Dean of Human Development Services, Chemeketa Community College
- 1977–1980 Thomas Meicho, Dean of Admissions, Linfield College
- 1981–1984 Gerard Berger, Dean of College Services, Chemeketa Community College
- 1984–1999 Tenison Haley, Dean of Student and Community Services, Rogue Community College
- 1999–2006 Judith Mills, Coordinator of Assessment Services, Clackamas Community College
- 2006–2009 Teri Calcagno, College Counselor, Central Catholic High School

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 Oregon ACT State Organization Council*

ACT State Representative

Teri Calcagno
College Counselor
Central Catholic High School

Chairperson

David McDonald
Associate Provost
Western Oregon University

Chair-Elect

Laurene Larson
Counselor
South Eugene High School

Past Chair

Dee Carlson
Research Specialist
Beaverton School District

Secretary

Steve Sugg
Associate Principal
Sherwood High School

ACT Liaison

Stacey Ellmore
Senior Consultant
ACT West Region

Christine Chairsell
Vice President for Academic and
Student Affairs
Portland Community College

Adrienne Enriquez
Associate Dean and Director of
Multicultural Recruitment
Lewis & Clark College

Joseph Holliday
Assistant Vice Chancellor for Student
Success
Oregon University System

Genevieve Howard
Program Manager I
Portland Community College

Lisa Knodle-Bragiel
Director of Admission
Linfield College

Kirk Koenig
Senior Associate Director of Admissions
University of Oregon

Paul Marthers
Dean
Reed College

Stephen Olczak
Principal
Benson Polytechnic High School

Vicki Van Buren
Executive Director, High School Education
Bend-La Pine School District

* As of May 2009

