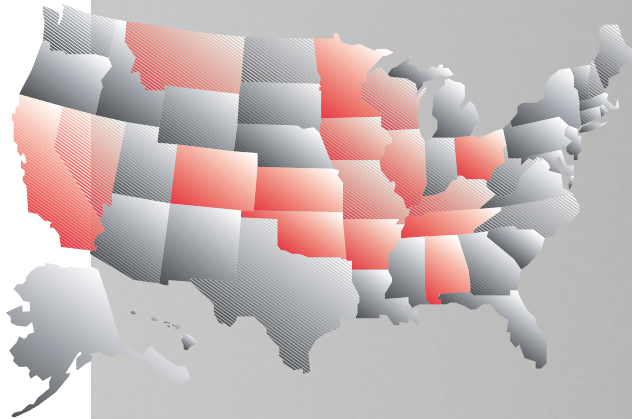


# ACT State Organizations

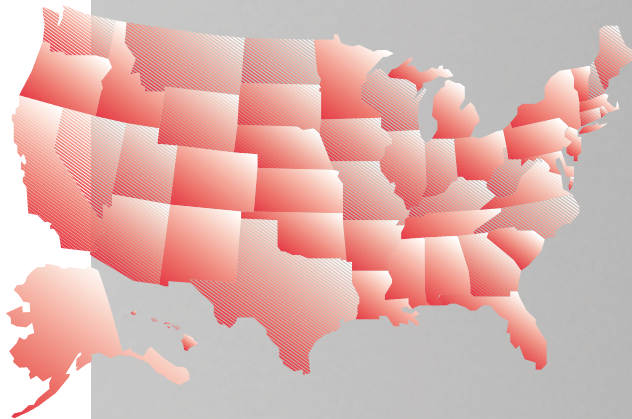
*Fifty Years—1959 to 2009*

1959



ACT

2009



ACT<sup>®</sup>



WISCONSIN

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**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 Wisconsin ACT State Organization

In 1959, ACT's founding year, Wisconsin became one of the first states to create an ACT State Organization. Paul L. Trump, then registrar at the University of Wisconsin and future ACT president, spearheaded promotion of the ACT test early throughout the state. Trump attended a March 1959 meeting of Big Ten university registrars in Iowa City, Iowa, and was named state coordinator by McCarrel. An advisory committee to ACT was established in the summer of 1959. In 1966, presidents of participating institutions voted on the establishment of a committee made of institutional representatives. J.J. McLaughlin, at that time dean of the College of Liberal Arts at Wisconsin State University, was named state representative.

Today, the Wisconsin ACT State Organization sponsors an annual conference that draws more than 200 participants from across the state and has a membership of more than 500 secondary and postsecondary educators and administrators. It presents the ACT 36er Award to high schools in the state that have one or more students who achieved a top score of 36. In addition, it honors middle and high schools with the Red Quill Award for schools that have done an exceptional job of utilizing, implementing, and integrating any of ACT's college readiness assessments with students, faculty, and parents.

## Past Wisconsin ACT State Representatives

1959–1962	Paul L. Trump, Registrar, University of Wisconsin
1962–1971	James J. McLaughlin, Director of Institutional Study, Wisconsin State University–River Falls
1971–1974	Robert LeRoy, University Registrar, University of Wisconsin–La Crosse
1975–1980	Lawrence Grant, Principal, Whitefish Bay High School
1981–1999	Tom Hood, Associate Vice Chancellor and Dean of Student Development, University of Wisconsin–La Crosse
1999–2002	L. Lynn Krebs, Coordinator of Guidance and Career Education, Milwaukee Public Schools
2002–2009	Alan Tuchtenhagen, Associate Vice Chancellor for Enrollment Services, University of Wisconsin–River Falls

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



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

Cardinal Stritch University  
Concordia University Wisconsin  
Edgewood College  
Lakeland College  
Marian University  
Milwaukee Area Technical College  
Milwaukee School of Engineering  
Northland College  
Silver Lake College  
St. Norbert College  
University of Wisconsin  
Viterbo University

### Current Wisconsin ACT State Organization Council\*

#### *ACT State Representative*

Alan Tuchtenhagen  
Associate Vice Chancellor for Enrollment  
Services  
University of Wisconsin–River Falls

#### *Chairperson*

John Huegel  
Associate Director, Department of  
Recruitment and Outreach  
University of Wisconsin–Milwaukee

#### *Chair-Elect*

Carlos Garces  
Senior Assistant Dean of Undergraduate  
Admissions  
Marquette University

#### *Past Chair*

Brenda Mikell  
Guidance Counselor  
Rufus King High School

#### *Secretary*

Brooke Konopacki  
Vice President for Student Access  
Wisconsin Association of Independent  
Colleges and Universities

#### *ACT Liaison*

Tim Osborn  
Senior Consultant, Assessment  
ACT Midwest Region

Bill Breisch  
Director of Instruction  
Monona Grove School District

Sue Clairmore-Dix  
Director of Counseling  
Wausau West High School

Annette Cleary  
Director of College Counseling  
Marquette University High School

Bonnie Dockry  
Education Program Coordinator  
Wisconsin Department of Public  
Instruction

Susan Kordula  
Director of Enrollment Services  
Nicolet Area Technical College

Samantha McGill  
Principal  
Horace Mann High School

Andrew W. Meuler  
Principal  
St. Catherine's High School

Christi Mickler  
President  
KV Resources, LLC

Susan Roberts  
Director of Admissions and Testing  
Gateway Technical College

Wendy Rowley  
School Data Support Specialist  
Milwaukee Public Schools

Janice Sheppard  
Senior Academic Planner  
University of Wisconsin System

\* As of May 2009

