

The Research-Driven
Solution to Raise
the Quality of
High School
Core Courses

QualityCore®

for your state

Rigor in Practice

ACT's decades of research make it crystal clear: when it comes to college and career readiness, it's not just the number of classes a student takes, but what happens *in* those classes that matters most. A student's preparation for college or career must be built upon solid, rigorous instruction in core subjects. Unfortunately, the quality of high school core courses is often inconsistent in classrooms across districts and states.

QualityCore® is a uniquely research-based curriculum program designed to raise the quality and intensity of 12 high school core courses. QualityCore allows educators, administrators, and policymakers to:

- **Focus on fewer, clearer, and higher standards** that are the essentials for college and career readiness
- **Use formative assessments** to guide instruction and make targeted interventions
- **Measure student progress** through benchmark and End-of-Course assessments
- **Provide professional development** resources and training opportunities for teachers and leaders
- **Customize instruction** to the needs of specific classrooms, schools, and districts

The program's six components—based on research and designed in partnership with the nation's leading educators—offer a comprehensive, aligned instructional approach to building student skills and knowledge.

Additional benefits of statewide administration can be found at:

www.act.org/stateservices/

The Components of QualityCore

- Rigorous Course Standards
- Instructional Resources
- Formative Item Pool
- End-of-Course Assessment
- Progress Monitoring
- Professional Development

Statewide use of QualityCore

The state of Kentucky has selected ACT and QualityCore as its partner for end-of-course examinations for the state's public high school students.



QualityCore Components:

Rigorous Course Standards	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Based on the ACT National Curriculum Survey® and research into high performing school districts Integrally tied to ACT College Readiness Benchmarks
Instructional Resources	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Based on empirical research studies of high-performing college and career readiness classrooms Designed to complement existing classroom materials and curriculum Developed by teachers, for teachers Resources include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Educator's Guide Course Objectives Course Description and Syllabus Course Outline and Instructional Unit Plan Test Blueprints Guideline for Developing Instructional Units Model Instructional Units
Formative Item Pool	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> More than 250 questions per course mapped to course objectives Online interactive test builder for customized assessments Comprised of both multiple-choice and constructed-response questions Developed by teachers and subject to ACT's rigorous standards
End-of-Course Assessment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Online and paper-based delivery options Multiple-choice and constructed-response formats
Progress Monitoring	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Interactive online reporting Longitudinal data tracking included Every end-of-course exam includes an estimated PLAN/ACT® subscore
Professional Development	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Tutorials for self-guided preparation Facilitated, face-to-face, multi-session development opportunities Incorporates proven instructional strategies

Aligned with ACT's College and Career Readiness System

QualityCore is directly aligned to ACT's College and Career Readiness System, which measures whether students are on target for becoming college and career ready in English, math, science, and social studies. The QualityCore resources and standards are designed to prepare all students to meet or exceed those benchmarks and graduate from high school ready for college or workplace training without remediation.

QualityCore Courses:

English

English 9, English 10, English 11, English 12

Mathematics

Algebra I, Algebra II, Geometry, Pre-Calculus

Science

Biology, Chemistry, Physics

Social Studies

U.S. History