Allowable ACT Accommodations and English Learner (EL) Supports

The information below is intended to assist students, families, and school staff in planning to take the ACT test with accommodations or EL Supports. Students must register to take the ACT test and work with a school official to submit a request for accommodations or EL supports via the Test Accessibility and Accommodations System (TAA) by the registration deadlines for their preferred test date. If a student needs an accommodation not listed below, they should work with their school official to request the accommodations in TAA and ACT will consider the request on an individualized basis.

Students testing with approved accommodations or EL supports will test via National Testing (at a National Test Center on a designated Saturday or Sunday) or through Special Testing (at their home school during a designated two-week window). The specific accommodations or EL supports needed to access the test and approved by ACT determine the location. The lists below describe what allowable accommodations are available via National or Special Testing.

A chart on high-level differences between National and Special can be found here. This document provides additional details.

National Testing - Standard Room
Accommodations/EL supports listed below can be provided during a national test day in a standard room with examinees testing without accommodations or EL supports.

- Large type testing materials (18 pt)
- Mark answers in the test booklet
- Permission for food, drink or medication while testing
- Medical device (e.g., insulin pump, heart monitor) if no cell phone or watch monitors condition
- Preferential seating
- Written copy of spoken instructions
- Assignment to a wheelchair-accessible room
- Sign language interpreter to sign spoken instructions (not test items).
- Translated test directions
- Word to word bilingual dictionary
- FMA System
- Colored Overlays
- 3x5 card or ruler for tracking
- Magnifier or highlighter
- Accessible calculator (nonstandard)
- Answer Masking (3x5 card)
- Answer Eliminator (marking off answers in test booklet)
- Notification of time remaining (alternative to verbal warning)
National Testing - Extended Room
All accommodations/EL supports allowed in a Standard Room during a national test day can be provided in an extended time room if the examinee is also approved for one and one-half extended time.

- One and one-half time
- Small group

National Testing - Single Room
All accommodations/EL supports allowed in a Standard Room during a national test day can be provided in a Single Room, where the examinee tests individually, if the examinee is also approved for any of the following.

- Breaks as needed
- Medical device (e.g., insulin pump, heart monitor) if using cell phone or watch monitors
- Ear plugs or noise canceling headphones
- Read testing items out loud to self
- Fidget devices
- Stand/Walk/Pace

Special Testing – Test date/time arranged with school
All accommodations available in National Testing can be provided through Special Testing if the examinee is also approved for any of the following.

Timing
- One and one-half multiple days
- Double time multiple days
- Triple time multiple days
- Standard time multiple days
- Double time on the writing test only (only applicable if the examinee registered with Writing)

Presentation
- Alternate test formats (e.g., Human Reader, Pre-recorded audio, Braille, Tactile Graphics) (Human reader needs Single Room)
- Test instructions repeated/clarified (Single)
- Signing entire test (Single)
- Personal aide, page turner, help pressing calculator buttons, materials positioning (Single)
- Screen Reader (JAWS or NVDA)

Response
- Scribe (Single Room)
- Computer for the writing test (only applicable if the examinee registered with Writing)
- Speech to text software for essay (Single)
- Blank, scratch or graph paper
- Franklin Speller
- CCTVs, Geoboard, iPad or other assistive technology
- Colored pencils or ink pen for essay
- Abacus
- Augmentative or Alternative Communication Devices (AAC)

**Setting**
- Background music, must be through speakers and not headphones (Single Room)
- Home/Hospital testing
- Environmental adaptations (special lighting, air conditioning, slant board, adaptive furniture)
- Verbal cues to stay on task
- Countdown timer