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 late registration deadline 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 at a national test center or through Special testing (arranged with a school official 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. Please see the document National vs Special (pdf) for high level differences between National and Special testing. This document provides additional details.

*Note: The student is responsible for bringing any authorized items to the test location. ACT will provide only the test booklet and answer documents.*

National Testing Center

**Standard Room**
Accommodations can be provided during a National test event in a standard room with examinees testing without accommodations or EL supports.

**Timing**
- Standard time

**Presentation**
- Large print testing materials (18 pt.)
- Sign language interpreter to sign verbal instructions (not test items)
- Translated test directions provided by ACT
- Bilingual word-to-word dictionary (ACT-authorized)
- Written copy of spoken instructions
- Colored overlays
- 3x5 card or ruler for tracking
- Magnifier or highlighter
- Answer masking (3x5 card)
- Answer eliminator (marking off answers in test booklet)

**Response**
- Mark answers in the test booklet

**Setting**
- Food, drink, or medication while testing
- Medical device (e.g., insulin pump, heart monitor) if no cell phone or watch monitors the condition
- Preferential seating
- Wheelchair-accessibility
- FM System
- Accessible calculator (nonstandard, needs single room unless wearing headphones)
- Notification of time remaining (alternative to verbal warning)
- Service animal

**Extended Time Room**
All accommodations/EL supports allowed in a Standard Room during a National test event can be provided in an extended time room if the examinee is also approved for 50% extended time.

- One and one-half time
- Small group
National Testing Center

Individual Room

All accommodations/EL supports allowed in a Standard Room during a National test event provided if the examinee is also approved for any of the following in single room, where the examinee tests individually.

- 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

Date and time arranged with school

All accommodations listed in the National columns can be provided through Special testing if the examinee is also approved for accommodations that require Special testing.

Timing
- Time 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)
- One and one-half time in COMBINATION with breaks as needed
- Late start testing

Presentation
- Alternate test formats (e.g., human reader*, pre-recorded audio, braille, tactile graphics)
  *Human reader (single room)
- Test instructions repeated and clarified (single room)
- Signing entire test (single room)
- Personal aide, page turner, help pressing calculator buttons, materials positioning (single room)
- Screen reader software (JAWS or NVDA)
- CCTVs

Response
- Scribe (single room)
- Computer for the writing test (only applicable if the examinee registered with writing)
- Speech to text software for essay (single room)
- Scratch paper (line, graph, or plain)
- Franklin Speller
- Geoboard or other assistive technology
- Colored pencils or ink pen for essay
- Abacus
- Augmentative or Alternative Communication Devices (AAC)
- Braille note taker, braille writer
- Responding in an alternate method (e.g., pointing, eye gaze, etc.)

Setting
- Background music, must be through speakers and not headphones (single room)
- White noise machine (single room)
- Home/Hospital testing
- Environmental adaptations (special lighting, air conditioning, slant board, adaptive furniture)
- Verbal cues to stay on task (single room)
- Countdown timer
- Hat/Sunglasses (single room)