

FEE WAIVER

Eligibility Requirements and Procedures

2026–2027

PROGRAM: NATIONAL | PRODUCT: THE ACT | AUDIENCE: SCHOOL/AGENCY OFFICIALS |
FOR FEE WAIVERS SUBMITTED ONLINE BY: AUGUST 31, 2027

ACT fee waiver program: ACT offers a test fee waiver program to eligible students that covers the regular registration fee for the ACT® plus the add-on fee(s) for optional science and/or writing test options and provides additional benefits.

Using the Fee Waiver

A student may use the *ACT Fee Waiver* to register for one ACT National test date for the year noted on this document, up to the deadline noted.

Each fee waiver has a serial number printed in the top-right corner. Instructions for submitting the serial number online can be found on the fee waiver.

Usage restrictions:

- Students may use a maximum of two separate fee waivers. Use of additional fee waivers will be denied.
- A fee waiver is considered used once the student registers, even if the student does not test on the requested date. If a student does not test on the registered test date, the student may apply the used fee waiver toward a future test date registration fee but will need to pay the associated change fee.
- Altered, copied, or obsolete forms and requests on letterhead will not be accepted.
- Students cannot use the fee waiver to receive a refund for a test fee that they already paid.
- Students cannot use a fee waiver to pay for additional fees, products, or services.

Students must pay any fees not covered by the fee waiver with a credit card before submitting the registration.

Benefits and More

Additional information about the *ACT Fee Waiver*, including benefits for students, is available at:

<https://www.act.org/content/act/en/products-and-services/the-act/registration/fees/fee-waivers.html>.

Note: *Please provide these fee waivers only to those who meet eligibility requirements. Fee waiver quantities are limited. Once funds are exhausted, fee waiver requests will become unavailable for ordering and MyACT will no longer accept the codes during registration.*

Meeting Eligibility Requirements

A student who participates in a federal program for the disadvantaged, but is not economically disadvantaged is not eligible for an *ACT Fee Waiver*.

To receive a fee waiver, the student must currently be enrolled in 11th or 12th grade AND meet one of the below indicators of economic need:

- Family's total annual income is at or below the USDA levels for free or reduced-price lunches listed on the USDA Food and Nutrition Service website, published at <https://www.fns.usda.gov/school-meals/income-eligibility-guidelines>.

- Family receives low-income public assistance or lives in federally subsidized public housing.
- Enrolled in a federally funded program for the economically disadvantaged (e.g., free or reduced-price lunch program, GEAR UP, or Upward Bound).
- Resides in a foster home, is a ward of the state, or is homeless.

Eligibility audits: To monitor compliance, ACT may request written evidence of student eligibility to monitor school/agency compliance. Non-eligible students may be billed and/or non-compliant schools/agencies may not be eligible for more waivers.

Advising Eligible Students

As you identify eligible students and assist them with using the *ACT Fee Waiver*, encourage them to do the following:

- **Register early:** This allows for maximum prep time. Once registration is complete, your student will have time to benefit from the features in *The Official ACT® Self-Paced Course, Powered by Kaplan®* which includes live, online instruction from expert instructors and more than 20 hours of on-demand video.
- **Follow through and test:** A fee waiver is an investment from ACT intended to financially assist a student who wishes to test. Emphasize to students who register with a fee waiver the importance of taking the test. When students use a fee waiver to register but do not test, they miss a valuable opportunity, and the action may limit access to testing for other eligible students.
- **Reschedule if needed:** Except for standby students denied admission, please advise fee waiver students who do not test to reschedule for a later ACT test date.
- **Avoid wasting fee waivers:** Discourage students from using multiple fee waivers simply to register; they do not receive the full benefits of their fee waivers unless they actually test.
 - While not recommended, students who choose not to reschedule can

register for another test date with another fee waiver code.

- **Use the college application fee waiver or deferral:** A student can use the *Request for Waiver or Deferral of College Admission Application Fee* form unlimited times when applying to schools. Have students send the completed form along with their college application(s).

Note: *Colleges and universities may consider the request but are not obligated to waive or defer their admission fees for any particular applicants.*

Ordering and Distributing Fee Waivers

ACT Fee Waivers are available to high schools, active Upward Bound projects, and qualifying not-for-profit assistance organizations.

Officials who identify eligible students may contact ACT to proactively order fee waivers.

- To order or reorder fee waivers, please visit: <http://www.act.org/the-act/supportmaterials>.
- Fee waiver forms are normally delivered within five working days of receiving the order and are emailed to the account on record.
- Please monitor your fee waiver quantities. Reorder only if needed prior to the registration period for each test date.

If you have questions about placing an order, please contact ACT Customer Support at 319.337.1320.