

Updates to the PreACT Assessments Readiness Levels

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The PreACT® suite of assessments (PreACT® 8/9, PreACT®, and PreACT® Secure™) can be used to monitor students' progress toward college and career readiness. Scores are classified into one of three readiness levels based on chances of meeting the ACT College Readiness Benchmark:

1. **On Target.** Students scoring in this range are predicted to have at least a 50% chance of meeting or exceeding the ACT College Readiness Benchmark in Grade 11 or 12. The **PreACT Assessments Readiness Benchmark** is the score associated with a 50% chance of meeting the ACT College Readiness Benchmark and is the minimum score of the On Target Readiness Level.
2. **Close to Target.** Students scoring in this range have less than a 50% chance, but greater than a 25% chance, of meeting the ACT College Readiness Benchmark.
3. **In Need of Intervention.** Students scoring in this range have less than a 25% chance of meeting the meeting the ACT College Readiness Benchmark.

The PreACT Assessments Readiness Levels are specific to season (fall or spring), grade level (8, 9, 10, or 11), and subject (English, math, reading, science, and STEM). The readiness levels were updated in spring 2024 to reflect the latest growth trends for students who completed high school from 2020 through 2024. The sample included a diverse group of 927,647 students who took PreACT 8/9 (in Grades 8 and/or 9) and/or PreACT (in Grades 9, 10, or 11) and the ACT test (in Grades 11 and/or 12). More details on the study will be provided in the next versions of the PreACT 8/9 Technical Bulletin and PreACT Technical Manual.

The updated score ranges for each readiness level are presented in Table 1. The table also indicates which of the updated score ranges are different from the previous score ranges. The updated readiness levels will be applied to PreACT 8/9, PreACT, and PreACT Secure reports beginning with tests administered during the 2024–2025 academic year.

The updated readiness levels for English, math, and STEM are mostly the same as the previous readiness levels. For fall Grade 8, the Readiness Benchmark for English decreased by one point. For math, the cut scores for Close to Target and On Target increased by one point for fall and spring Grade 8. For STEM, the cut scores for Close to Target and On Target decreased by one point for spring Grade 10. For reading, the cut score for On Target (the readiness benchmark) increased by one point for each grade level and season, as did the cut scores for Close to Target. For science, the cut scores for On Target increased by one point for fall Grade

9, spring Grade 10, and fall Grade 11, while the cut scores for Close to Target increased for spring Grade 9 and later grade levels.

Table 1. Updated Score Ranges for PreACT Assessments Readiness Levels

Subject	Grade Level / Season	In Need of Intervention	Close to Target	On Target
English	8, fall	1–7	8–9 (8–10)	10–30 (11–30)
	8, spring	1–7	8–10	11–30
	9, fall	1–8	9–11	12–30
	9, spring	1–9	10–12	13–30
	10, fall	1–10	11–13	14–35
	10, spring	1–11	12–14	15–35
	11, fall	1–12	13–15	16–35
Math	8, fall	1–13 (1–12)	14–15 (13–14)	16–30 (15–30)
	8, spring	1–14 (1–13)	15–16 (14–15)	17–30 (16–30)
	9, fall	1–14	15–16	17–30
	9, spring	1–15	16–17	18–30
	10, fall	1–16	17–18	19–35
	10, spring	1–16	17–18	19–35
	11, fall	1–17	18–19	20–35
Reading	8, fall	1–12 (1–11)	13–15 (12–14)	16–30 (15–30)
	8, spring	1–13 (1–12)	14–16 (13–15)	17–30 (16–30)
	9, fall	1–14 (1–13)	15–17 (14–16)	18–30 (17–30)
	9, spring	1–15 (1–14)	16–18 (15–17)	19–30 (18–30)
	10, fall	1–16 (1–15)	17–19 (16–18)	20–35 (19–35)
	10, spring	1–17 (1–16)	18–20 (17–19)	21–35 (20–35)
	11, fall	1–18 (1–17)	19–21 (18–20)	22–35 (21–35)
Science	8, fall	1–13	14–16	17–30
	8, spring	1–14	15–17	18–30
	9, fall	1–15	16–18 (16–17)	19–30 (18–30)
	9, spring	1–16 (1–15)	17–18 (16–18)	19–30
	10, fall	1–17 (1–16)	18–19 (17–19)	20–35
	10, spring	1–18 (1–17)	19–20 (18–19)	21–35 (20–35)
	11, fall	1–19 (1–17)	20–21 (18–20)	22–35 (21–35)
STEM	8, fall	1–16	17–18	19–30
	8, spring	1–17	18–19	20–30
	9, fall	1–18	19–20	21–30
	9, spring	1–19	20–21	22–30
	10, fall	1–20	21–22	23–35
	10, spring	1–20 (1–21)	21–22 (22–23)	23–35 (24–35)
	11, fall	1–21	22–23	24–35

Note: Previous score range provided in parentheses when different than updated score range.



ABOUT ACT

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