ACT Technical Guide for Online Testing
# Contents

## Overview of the ACT Online Administration
- Frequently Used Links ................................................. 4
- Systems for Online Testing ........................................ 4
- Equipment at Your Organization .................................. 4
- Site Readiness Steps .................................................. 5
- Technical Coordinator Role ........................................ 6
- Technical Coordinator Responsibilities ......................... 6
- Administrative Computer in Each Room ....................... 7
- Preparing Devices to Ensure Test Content Security .......... 7
- Disabling Automatic Application Launching ................... 7

## TestNav Overview
- Required Version of TestNav ...................................... 7
- Benefits of Conducting a Mock Administration .............. 8
- Confirming That Chromebooks Are Managed .................. 8

## TestNav System Requirements
- Minimum Hardware Requirements for TestNav ................ 8
- Virtual Environment and Thin Client Are Not Supported .... 9
- Software Requirements for TestNav ............................... 9
- Whitelisting for TestNav ............................................. 9
- Tips for Using a Wireless Network ............................... 10

## Preparing TestNav
- Download TestNav on Windows .................................. 10
- Download TestNav on Mac OS X ................................. 11
- Download TestNav on Chromebooks ......................... 11
- TestNav App Check .................................................. 12
  - Locate the Configuration Identifier .......................... 12
  - Run the TestNav App Check ................................. 12
  - Run the Network Check via TestNav App Check ........ 13
- Freezing the Test Environment .................................... 13
- Verify That TestNav Configuration Is Complete ............ 13

## Using Saved Response and Log Files
- Understanding SRF and Log Files ............................... 14
- Choosing a Save Location ......................................... 14
  - Using a Network File Server as a Save Location ........ 14
- Save Locations for TestNav—Windows and Mac OS X .... 15
- Save Locations for TestNav—Chrome OS ........................ 15
  - Save SRF and Log before Calling for Assistance—Chrome OS .................................................. 15

## Proctor Caching Overview
- Proctor Caching and Its Benefits ............................... 16
Overview of the ACT Online Administration

This guide will help technical staff configure an organization's systems for the ACT test taken online.

Frequently Used Links

Table 1: Frequently Used Links

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Site</th>
<th>URL</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>TestNav Online Support</td>
<td><a href="https://support.assessment.pearson.com/display/TN/TestNav+8+Online+Support">https://support.assessment.pearson.com/display/TN/TestNav+8+Online+Support</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PearsonAccess\textsuperscript{next}</td>
<td><a href="https://testadmin.act.org">https://testadmin.act.org</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PearsonAccess\textsuperscript{next} Mock Administration (training site)</td>
<td><a href="https://training.testadmin.act.org">https://training.testadmin.act.org</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Download TestNav, ProctorCache Software</td>
<td>download.testnav.com</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Systems for Online Testing

PearsonAccess\textsuperscript{next} is the web application used by test staff (i.e., test coordinators, room supervisors) to manage online testing and start and monitor tests. It is located at https://testadmin.act.org.

TestNav is the test delivery engine used by examinees to take the tests. It can be downloaded at https://download.testnav.com.

Equipment at Your Organization

The technical coordinator needs to know the following information about the organization's equipment to ensure it meets hardware, software, and other technical requirements defined by ACT.

Table 2: Information about Equipment at Your Organization

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Information You Need to Know</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Internet Connection</td>
<td>• Type of internet connection at your organization&lt;br&gt;• Internet bandwidth/speed</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Devices</td>
<td>• Number of devices available for examinees to use&lt;br&gt;• Number of devices available for administrative access&lt;br&gt;• Types of devices&lt;br&gt;• Device owner(s)/administrator(s)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
### Category: Operating System, Processor, Memory
- Operating system for each device
- Processor for each device
- Memory for each device

### Category: Monitors
- Screen resolution for each device
- Display size for each device

**Note:** Browser-based testing is not supported.

### Site Readiness Steps

The test coordinator and technical coordinator need to complete these steps to administer the ACT online.

- **Step 1**
  - The test coordinator appoints a technical coordinator.
  - The technical coordinator reviews technical requirements.

- **Step 2**
  - The test coordinator completes a mock administration and training without proctor caching (if the site meets minimum requirements*).
    - If the mock administration is successful, move to Step 3.
    - If it is not successful, the technical coordinator sets up proctor caching, and the test coordinator resumes the mock administration and training.

  * - Please see the and Proctor Caching Systems Requirements TestNav System Requirements and Proctor Cashing Systems Requirements sections of this documentation for more information.

- **Step 3**
  - The technical coordinator validates configuration and locks down devices.

**Note:** If at any point the technical coordinator doubts that online testing can be accomplished, the technical coordinator should advise the test coordinator to switch to the paper administration.
Overview of the ACT Online Administration

Related concepts
TestNav System Requirements on page 8
Information about hardware and software requirements, virtual environments and thin clients, whitelisting, and using a wireless network.

Proctor Caching System Requirements on page 17
Information about hardware and software requirements and whitelisting.

Technical Coordinator Role

The technical coordinator installs and configures testing system software, and helps the test coordinator set up computers for testing. The person in this role must be available on test day to assist and troubleshoot any technical issues that may arise.

Number required: One per test site

Technical Coordinator Responsibilities

• Ensure the school’s computers and infrastructure meet online testing requirements
• Help the test coordinator and other staff set up for test day (includes examinee and administrative computers and test rooms)
• Troubleshoot technical issues staff or examinees may have on test day
• Rerun applicable system checks the week before test day on all applicable computers (if the test environment is "unfrozen" for an update)

Additional responsibilities, if proctor caching:
• Install ProctorCache software on the proctor caching computer
• Create the TestNav configuration in PearsonAccess\textsuperscript{DMX}
- Precache test content **two days** prior to testing
- After all examinees have completed testing, purge all content from the proctor caching computer

### Administrative Computer in Each Room

Each test room must have a computer that the room supervisor will use to access PearsonAccess\textsuperscript{next} to unlock, start, monitor, manage, and stop test sessions for the room. This computer must meet the requirements listed at https://support.assessment.pearson.com/display/PAsup/System+Requirements and reside in an area where the room supervisor can see all examinees in the room.

### Preparing Devices to Ensure Test Content Security

#### Preparing Administrative Computers

Turn off or disable any management software that would allow secure test content on examinee testing devices to be viewed on any other device (i.e., LanSchool, NetopVision, Hapara, or similar applications).

#### Preparing Examinee Computers

All software applications, Internet browsers, cameras (still and video), screen capture programs (live and recorded, such as Skype), email, instant messaging, application switching, media players (such as iTunes), and printing capability must be closed before testing begins.

### Disabling Automatic Application Launching

TestNav must be the only application running on examinees' computers during testing. If an application launches during a test session, TestNav will exit the examinee from TestNav. Before testing, configure any applications that may automatically launch to **disable automatic launch**.

Common automatic launches to disable:

- Anti-virus software performs automatic updates
- Power management software on laptops warns of low battery power
- Screen savers activate
- The computer goes into sleep mode
- Email notifications appear
- Calendar notifications appear
- Sticky keys are active (i.e., the shift key is pressed 5 times - Windows only)
- Laptops prompt for software updates

### TestNav Overview

An overview of using TestNav, including: which version is needed, the advantage of completing a mock administration, and using Chromebooks.

### Required Version of TestNav

The required version of the TestNav app is 1.9.x. To set up this version of the app, go to: https://support.assessment.pearson.com/display/TN/Set+up+and+Use+TestNav.

An error message will appear when attempting to launch if this version is not installed.
Benefits of Conducting a Mock Administration

Conducting a mock administration is strongly recommended. It is the best way to verify the technology setup is complete and accurate—the TestNav app is installed and equipment is configured correctly. It is also beneficial for testing staff to experience online testing in a dry-run, without examinees, to feel more comfortable and prepared for the actual test administration.

To complete the mock administration, refer to the Mock Administration Guide for instructions and use the PearsonAccess<sup>TM</sup> training site found at https://training.testadmin.act.org. Be sure to use this training site for the mock administration, as it does not contain live test content. Live tests must not be accessed by anyone other than examinees on the test day.

IMPORTANT:: The mock administration must not be used as a practice test for examinees. It is a process used to verify that the test environment is working correctly.

Confirming That Chromebooks Are Managed

ACT only supports managed Chromebooks. You can manage your organization's Chrome devices from a single place using Chrome device management.

Before setting up TestNav on Chromebooks that will be used for testing, verify that the Chromebooks are managed. View the See if your Chromebook is managed information at https://support.google.com/chromebook/answer/1331549?hl=en.

TestNav System Requirements

Information about hardware and software requirements, virtual environments and thin clients, whitelisting, and using a wireless network.

Note: Technical requirements may change on a quarterly basis.

Minimum Hardware Requirements for TestNav

To determine if your site has enough computers to test all examinees, use this formula:

[number of devices] x [number of days you plan to test] = examinee capacity

For an optimal testing experience, avoid using any computer that takes 10 seconds or more to start and run applications.

Table 3: Minimum Hardware Requirements

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Windows</th>
<th>Mac OS</th>
<th>Chrome OS</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Supported Devices</td>
<td>Desktop and Laptop</td>
<td>Desktop and Laptop</td>
<td>Chromebook</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Processor</td>
<td>x86/x32 and x64</td>
<td>only Intel-based&lt;sup&gt;TM&lt;/sup&gt;</td>
<td>Any</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Memory</td>
<td>2 GB Ram</td>
<td>2 GB Ram</td>
<td>2 GB Ram</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Screen Size</td>
<td>9.5 inch</td>
<td>9.5 inch</td>
<td>9.5 inch</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Screen Resolution</td>
<td>1024x768</td>
<td>1024x768</td>
<td>1024x768</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
**TestNav System Requirements**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Windows</th>
<th>Mac OS</th>
<th>Chrome OS</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| Other Requirements    | • Windows convertible devices are not supported in tablet mode  
                         • Local File access to home directory      | • Local File access to home directory        | • Convertible Chromebooks cannot be used in tablet mode as a touchscreen device  
                         • Touchscreen is not supported             |                                                |
| Recommendations       | Wired hardware                               | Wired hardware                               |                                                             |

**IMPORTANT:** iPads and Linux devices are not supported at this time. An examinee's score will be canceled if an iPad or Linux device is used for testing.

**Virtual Environment and Thin Client Are Not Supported**

ACT does not provide support for virtual environment and thin client technologies. If this technology is used, the test site is responsible for the security and performance of its virtual environment. It is recommended that sites planning to use this technology compare performance of the virtual environment to a non-virtual environment before proceeding.

**Software Requirements for TestNav**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Operating System</th>
<th>Link to Download</th>
<th>Link to Setup Instructions</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Chrome OS 83+</td>
<td>Chrome Web Store</td>
<td>Set Up TestNav on Chrome OS</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>OS X: 10.13, 10.14+</td>
<td>TestNav Downloads</td>
<td>Set Up TestNav on OS X</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Windows: 7, 8.1, 10</td>
<td>TestNav Downloads</td>
<td>Set Up TestNav on Windows</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(includes Windows Store App)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Whitelisting for TestNav**

The following urls and ports must be whitelisted or opened in any firewalls, proxy servers, or software used for Internet content filtering or inspection. Asterisks noted below are required as a "wildcard."

**URL:**Port

- *.testnav.com:80
- *.testnav.com:443
- *.act.org:80
- *.act.org:443
- *.pearsoncontent.com
- *.thawte.com
- *.usertrust.com
- *.comodoca.com
- .google-analytics.com
- https://dictionaryapi.com
Tips for Using a Wireless Network

The increase in devices accessing organization networks increases the need for stable Wi-Fi networks, daily monitoring, and maintenance. To help network administrators stabilize Wi-Fi for online testing, use these tips.

- Disable low-end wireless protocols not being used
- Disable Wi-Fi on mobile devices to avoid potential interference
- Ask test rooms to stagger log in to minimize initial loading time on test day
- Conduct a site survey to determine how many wireless access points the organization needs
  - Evaluate existing infrastructure, network design, and Wi-Fi
  - Count the number of user devices
  - Examine the type of user traffic and interference
- Install access points more densely to decrease potential overload
- Reduce Wi-Fi interference from solid materials such as brick, concrete, metal, bookshelves, and cabinets
- Point adjustable Wi-Fi antennas at examinee devices or move examinee devices directly under the access point
- Make sure that no other Wi-Fi networks are using the same channel
- Check your access point user guide to determine if your access points can detect the least congested Wi-Fi channel
- Reduce interference from devices that may not be on Wi-Fi, but may use the same frequency to connect (i.e., cordless phones, Bluetooth-enabled devices, and examinee mobile devices)
- Temporarily turn off or unplug electronics to reduce wireless interference during testing

Preparing TestNav

Instructions to download TestNav, run the App Check, and freeze the test environment.

Download TestNav on Windows

2. Select the Windows .msi installer or .exe installer.
   The .msi installer file contains instructions about installing and removing an application and an installation wizard that will automatically install TestNav. The .exe installer file provides a setup wizard, and the ability to select the location that program files are saved.
3. Select the downloaded file or save and open, if required by your browser.
   The Open File - Security Warning appears with a message asking if you want to run the TestNav file.
4. Select Run.
5. The installer that was selected determines the next step.
   • If you downloaded the .msi installer, the installer window appears and automatically installs TestNav. When it's complete, skip to step 14 on page 11.
   • If you downloaded the .exe installer, continue to the next step.
6. Select Yes.
   The TestNav Setup Wizard appears.
7. Select Next.
   The Select Destination Location window appears.
8. Determine where to save TestNav program files.
   • By default, the files will save in C://Program Files (x86)/TestNav.
   • To save the files in another location, select Browse and choose the location.
9. Select Next.
   The Select Start Menu Folder window appears.
10. Determine where to save program shortcut files.
   • By default, the setup wizard stores program shortcuts in a Pearson folder in the Start menu folder.
   • To choose another location, select Browse and the location.
11. Select Next.
12. Select Install.
13. Decide if you want to launch TestNav.
   • By default the Launch TestNav checkbox is selected.
   • Deselect the checkbox to launch TestNav at another time.

Run the TestNav App Check.

**Download TestNav on Mac OS X**

2. Select Download TestNav for another platform.
3. Select the OS X/macOS installer.
4. Select the file that downloaded.
   The TestNav install window appears.
5. Drag the TestNav icon into the Applications folder.
6. Eject the TestNav installer from Devices in the Finder sidebar or from the desktop.

Run the TestNav App Check.

**Download TestNav on Chromebooks**

1. Log in to the Admin console for your domain.
2. Select Device Management>Chrome devices.
3. Select the icon at the top right of the screen for Chrome device settings.
4. Scroll down to User Data and select Do not erase all local user data if it's not already selected.
5. Look for Kiosk Settings above Kiosk Apps and ensure that the Auto-Launch Kiosk App drop-down is set to None.
   Make sure the examinee Chromebooks are under the organizational unit selected for TestNav.
6. Scroll down to Kiosk Apps and select Manage Kiosk Applications.
   The Kiosk Apps screen appears.
7. Verify that TestNav is listed in the Total to Install column.
   If TestNav is not listed, select Chrome Web Store, search for TestNav using the search field, select Add, and then select Save.
8. Scroll to the bottom of the page and select Save.

Run the TestNav App Check.
TestNav App Check

The TestNav App Check tool now contains two components:

1. App Check – Used to verify that the testing device is able to securely lock down, access test content, write to save locations, and submit responses to the online testing servers. It is recommended that the App Check is run on every examinee device in the organization.

2. Network Check – This is a newly added feature, used to evaluate network performance based on the number of simultaneous testers expected during the administration.

It is recommended that the TestNav App Check is run on every examinee device in the organization.

Running the App Check without a Configuration Identifier will confirm TestNav’s ability to enter full screen or "kiosk" mode and check connectivity to the online testing servers.

It also checks the testing computer for the following enabled features that need to be disabled:

- The ability to save multiple items in the Cloud Clipboard
- The ability to sync across devices in the Cloud Clipboard
- Airplay screen-saving

Running the App Check with a Configuration Identifier will also check the application’s ability to communicate with the organization's defined saved response file (SRF) save locations and ProctorCache server.

Locate the Configuration Identifier

2. Select the Setup icon, then TestNav Configurations.
3. Select or create the TestNav configuration.
   - If TestNav Configurations are set up in PearsonAccess, select its name from the list, then select the drop-down on the Start button, and Create/Edit TestNav Configurations.
   - If the TestNav Configurations are not set up in PearsonAccess, select the drop-down on the Start button, and then select Create/Edit TestNav Configurations.

The Create/Edit screen will appear. The Configuration Identifier will appear under the Port box. It will generate even if the IP address and Port are not entered.

Run the TestNav App Check.

Run the TestNav App Check

Set up TestNav on each examinee device before running the App Check. For Chromebooks, open them in kiosk mode (open the app without logging in to the Chromebook) for the TestNav App Check to work. Locate the Configuration Identifier before completing the check.

1. Select the TestNav shortcut on your desktop or go to the Start menu and select All Programs, Pearson, and then TestNav.
   The Customer Selection screen appears.
2. Follow the appropriate next step.
   - If you administer only the ACT, select The ACT from the list.
   - If you administer more than one product using TestNav, go to the User drop-down, and select Choose a different customer, and then select The ACT from the list.
3. Select the User drop-down, and then App Check.
4. Enter the Configuration Identifier, or leave this field blank, and then select Run App Check.

Note: If an invalid Configuration Identifier is entered, an error message will appear.

A green success message will appear if the system passed, or a red failure message will appear if the system failed.
For sites using ProctorCache, or using a secondary save location (even if ProctorCache is not used), if the check was run before the TestNav Configurations were set up in PearsonAccess\textsuperscript{next}, and the Configuration Identifier was not used, it is strongly recommended that the check be run again with the Configuration Identifier once the TestNav Configurations are set up.

Run the Network Check via TestNav App Check

1. Select the TestNav shortcut on your desktop or go to the Start menu and select All Programs, Pearson, and then TestNav. The Customer Selection screen appears.

2. Follow the appropriate next step.
   - If you administer only the ACT, select The ACT from the list.
   - If you administer more than one product using TestNav, go to the User drop-down, and select Choose a different customer, and then select The ACT from the list.

3. Select the User drop-down, and then App Check.

4. Select Run Network Check.

5. Select the number of computers you plan to administer a test on and select Start Diagnostics Test.

6. Your test results will display on screen.
   - If the test results indicate Pass, refer to the note below for additional guidance to ensure ProctorCache is not needed.
   - If the test results indicate Fail, it is recommended that ProctorCache is set up and utilized. Please see the Proctor Caching System Requirements and the Install ProctorCache Software sections of this document for more information.

Note: The best way to ensure that you can successfully test without ProctorCache is to run a Mock Administration. To complete the mock administration, refer to the Mock Administration Guide for instructions and use the PearsonAccess\textsuperscript{next} training site found at https://training.testadmin.act.org.

Related concepts
Proctor Caching System Requirements on page 17
Information about hardware and software requirements and whitelisting.

Related tasks
Install ProctorCache Software on page 19

Freezing the Test Environment

Once the test environment is configured for TestNav, "freeze" the configuration until online testing is finished at the organization. This means that all devices used for testing need to be administrator controlled during this time—no software of any sort should be downloaded or updated, including operating system updates. If the test environment must be updated before testing, or between testing windows, please rerun the TestNav App Check and "refreeze" the test environment.

Verify That TestNav Configuration Is Complete

Test coordinators may follow these steps to verify in PearsonAccess\textsuperscript{next} that TestNav is configured.


2. Make sure your organization is selected in the top right of the screen, then select the Reports icon, and Operational Reports.


4. Select the report titled, Organizations that have Precaching Server Configuration.

5. Select Organizations with Precaching Server Configuration under the Filter Options drop-down, and then select the Display Report or the Download CSV button.
Using Saved Response and Log Files

Information about saved response files, log files, save locations, and storing the information in PearsonAccess next.

Understanding SRF and Log Files

When an examinee responds to a question, TestNav saves the response in a saved response file (SRF) and sends these responses to the Pearson server. After the responses successfully save to the server, TestNav deletes the SRF from the local computer. If the response does not save to the server, the SRF preserves the response on the local computer.

TestNav also writes to a log file during the test session. The log file helps to troubleshoot issues if they occur.

Choosing a Save Location

We strongly recommend using the default primary save location. For the secondary save location, here are some pros and cons to consider when determining which location to use.

Table 5: Pros and Cons of Save Locations

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Save Location</th>
<th>Pros</th>
<th>Cons</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Directory on network computer</td>
<td>• Backup file is accessible from other computers</td>
<td>• Uses more internal network bandwidth</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>• Responses save to the network drive more slowly than to the local directory and as a result, test items take more time to load</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>• Does not provide a secondary save location for Chromebooks</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Local directory on testing computer</td>
<td>• Uses less internal network bandwidth</td>
<td>• Backup file is not accessible from any other computer</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(TestNav client)</td>
<td>• Responses save to local directory more quickly than to the network drive and as a result, test items take less time to load</td>
<td>• Does not provide a secondary save location for Chromebooks</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SFTP site</td>
<td>• Provides secondary save location for all supported testing computers/devices</td>
<td>• Requires SFTP site setup</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• Chromebooks can only use SFTP as a secondary save location</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Using a Network File Server as a Save Location

Here are a few tips for using a network file server as a save location.

• Do not use spaces in the save location path.
• Do not use a location that requires authentication. If authentication is required, TestNav cannot access the shared location.
• Do not use a Window Uniform Naming Convention (UNC) or network path on a device with macOS or Linux, such as `\ComputerName\SharedFolder\Resource`. It's recommended that a mapped drive location is specified, such as `D:\TopDirectory\NextDirectory\SaveLocation`.

Save Locations for TestNav—Windows and Mac OS X

1. Set up a primary and an optional secondary location for saved response files. Enter this information in the **TestNav Configurations** screen in PearsonAccess

2. Configure examinee user accounts to have complete read, write, and delete access in all save locations.

   If using a secondary saved response file location, it is strongly recommended that a shared network folder, accessed from all testing devices, is used to ensure responses are not lost, even if an examinee cannot continue to test on the same device. Verify that the shared folder can be accessed from multiple testing devices.

   The saved response files will automatically save to the default location, unless directed to save somewhere else. The log file save location cannot be changed.

Table 6: Default Save Locations

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Operating System</th>
<th>SRF Location</th>
<th>Log File Location</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Windows</td>
<td><code>{USER.HOME}</code>\Pearson\srf\</td>
<td><code>{USER.HOME}</code>\Pearson\logs</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mac OS X</td>
<td><code>{USER_HOME}</code>/Pearson/srf/</td>
<td><code>{USER_HOME}</code>/Pearson/logs/</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Save Locations for TestNav—Chrome OS

For the Chrome OS, the saved response file default primary save location is on the local device. This cannot be changed. The secondary save location can be customized only to a secure file transfer protocol (SFTP).

Save SRF and Log before Calling for Assistance—Chrome OS

If using Chrome OS, and you encounter an error, follow these steps to locate and save a copy of the saved response file and log file from the default location before calling for assistance.

1. Launch the TestNav app.
2. Focus your cursor in the username or password field.
3. Press `<ctrl>`<shift>z.
   - If nothing happens, select the window and press `<ctrl>`<shift>z again.
   - The **File Viewer** box appears.
4. Plug in a USB memory stick.
5. Select the **Download** button beside the SRF and log file(s) to download.
6. Select the memory stick and then select **Save**.
Proctor Caching Overview

This is an overview of proctor caching and its benefits.

Proctor Caching and Its Benefits

Proctor caching is the process of storing encrypted test content on a local computer using software called ProctorCache. This stored or cached test content is distributed to examinee devices during a test session.

Ways that proctor caching improves the online testing experience for examinees and testing staff:

- Examinees can complete testing even if the Internet connection fails (unless the examinee has not yet logged in and started testing).
- Delays caused by network congestion are reduced.
- The required amount of bandwidth is reduced, because the download redundancy caused by each examinee downloading an independent copy of the test is removed.

Note: Proctor Caching is not required, but it is strongly recommended. Please see the Site Readiness Steps section of this document to determine whether or not ProctorCache is needed at your organization.

Proctor Caching Process Overview

The test coordinator creates and prepares test sessions, and the technical coordinator precaches test content for each session. For that reason, the technical coordinator and test coordinator need to work closely together when test sessions are created, test content is precached, and test sessions are prepared.
Table 7: Overview of Technical Coordinator's Role When Proctor Caching

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Stage</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Prepare the organization's network environment.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Identify proctor caching computer(s) and verify that they meet minimum system requirements.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Install ProctorCache software on all proctor caching computers.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Add the proctor caching settings to each organization in PearsonAccess.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>Use the TestNav App Check to verify connectivity between testing computers and proctor caching computers.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>Precache the test content using PearsonAccess two business days before testing begins.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>Verify that all test content was successfully cached.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>Monitor cached content and connections to the proctor caching computers.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9</td>
<td>After testing is complete, purge content from proctor caching computers.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Proctor Caching System Requirements

Information about hardware and software requirements and whitelisting.

Minimum Hardware Requirements for Proctor Caching

Table 8: Minimum Hardware Requirements for Proctor Caching

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Computer</th>
<th>Windows</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Processor</td>
<td>x86/x32 and x64</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Minimum 2 GHz</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Memory</td>
<td>2 GB RAM</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Software Requirements for Proctor Caching

Whitelisting for ProctorCache

The following urls and ports must be whitelisted or opened in any firewalls, proxy servers, or software used for Internet content filtering or SSL inspection.

**URL:Port**

- .act.org:80
- .act.org:443
- .pearsontestcontent.com
- .thawte.com
- .usertrust.com
- .comodoca.com
- .google-analytics.com

Default Port Settings for ProctorCache (LAN traffic): port 4480 and port 4481

Preparing to Use ProctorCache Software

Information about prerequisites, selecting proctor caching computers, installing the software, using an upstream proxy server, and configuring proctor caching computers.

Staff and System Prerequisites

The following are prerequisites for installing ProctorCache software.

The technical coordinator needs:

- Full local administrator permissions
- Working knowledge of the organization's network
- A user account in PearsonAccess with the technical coordinator role for the product and organization in the current year

The organization's system needs:

- Fixed internal IP addresses
- A network connection on 100 Mbps full-duplex or higher (the minimum is 10/100)
- A network set up to use IPv4 Domain Name System (DNS) servers
- A network set up to use IPv6 DNS servers, if no explicit changes were made to use IPv6

TCP Ports need to be open:

- 80 (Internet); 443
- 4480 and 4481 (local network)

**Note:** Using proctor caching does not require special hardware, equipment, or an underlying server-based operating system.

Choosing Proctor Caching Computers

Select proctor caching computers:

- With Windows OS; ProctorCache software only works on Windows
- On the same network as examinee testing computers
• In the same building as examinee testing computers
• That take 10 seconds or less to start and run applications
• Dedicated to running ProctorCache software when precaching test content and during testing
• That can remain powered on when precaching test content and during testing

Do not select computers:
• That will be used by examinees
• That are tasked with network services such as a domain controller (i.e., Active Directory Server, Print Server, etc.) or any task other than proctor caching

Install ProctorCache Software

2. Select Download ProctorCache.
   A file downloads.
3. Open the downloaded file.
   The installer screen that includes a security message opens.
4. Select the Run or Yes button to launch the installer.
   The software loads and an introduction screen appears.
5. Read the introduction, and then select the Next button.
   Proxy information is displayed. The Server Name defaults to the computer name.
6. Take one of the following steps to complete the proxy information screen.
   • If the site is not using a proxy server, accept the default destination folder and select the Next button.
   • If the site is using a proxy server, verify that the proxy server information is correct or enter the correct value, accept the default destination folder, and select the Next button.
   • If the site is using an upstream proxy server to access the Internet, see Using an Upstream Proxy Server to enter the correct value and to set the appropriate destination folder. Then, select the Next button.
7. Take one of the following steps.
   • If the site is not using an upstream proxy server, select the location to create the ProctorCache icon(s), check the box beside Create icons for all users, and then select the Next button.
   • If the site is using an upstream proxy server to access the Internet, see Using an Upstream Proxy Server to select the location to create the ProctorCache icon(s). Then, check the box beside Create icons for all users, and select the Next button.
8. Verify that the box beside Start ProctorCache automatically when install completes is checked, and then select the Next button.
   A preinstallation summary appears.
9. Review the summary, and then select the Install button.
   The ProctorCache software installs.
10. Select the Done button.
11. Restart the computer.

See Configure Proctor Caching Computers to complete the set up.

Using an Upstream Proxy Server

Use this table as a guide to enter the correct values when installing ProctorCache software if the site is using an upstream proxy server.
Table 9: Values for an Upstream Proxy Server

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>If the upstream proxy server is ...</th>
<th>Find this file ...</th>
<th>Change the value ...</th>
<th>To the new value ...</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Authenticated</td>
<td><code>&lt;install_dir&gt;\squid\etc\squid.conf</code></td>
<td><code>##cache_peer address parent port 0 login=user:pass default no-query http11</code></td>
<td><code>cache_peer &lt;proxy server IP address&gt; parent &lt;proxy server port number&gt; 0 login=&lt;user ID&gt;:&lt;password&gt; default no-query http11</code></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Unauthenticated</td>
<td><code>&lt;install_dir&gt;\squid\etc\squid.conf</code></td>
<td><code>##never_direct allow all</code></td>
<td><code>never_direct allow all</code></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Configure Proctor Caching Computers

The technical coordinator needs to have an account with the technical coordinator role in PearsonAccess next to complete these steps.

The technical coordinator will set up TestNav Configurations in PearsonAccess next to set up proctor caching computers.

2. In the top right of the screen, select the test administration and organization(s).
   - If you are configuring proctor caching computers at the school level for one site, select that organization.
   - If you are configuring proctor caching computers at the district level for all sites in the district, select the district.
3. Select the Setup icon, then TestNav Configurations. The TestNav Configurations screen appears.
4. On the Tasks pane, select the drop-down on the Start button, then Create/Edit TestNav Configurations.
5. Enter a name for the configuration settings for the organization(s).
6. Follow one of these steps.
   - If you are completing this at the school level for one site, select that organization.
   - If you are completing this at the district level for all sites in the district, select all of the organizations this configuration will apply to.
7. Enter the computer name of the proctor caching computer.
   The proctor caching computer may be given a name that makes it easy to use.
8. Locate and enter the IP address of the proctor caching computer.
   Open the Command Prompt and type IPCONFIG for the IP address to display.
   Note: The proctor caching computer must have a static IP address.
9. Enter 4480 in the Port field.
10. Enter the saved response file locations and other requested details from the proctor caching computer, and then select the Create button.

   **Note:** The saved response file locations may be left at the default settings, or changed and entered later.

11. The number of proctor caching computers determines the next step.
   - If one proctor caching computer will be used, continue to step 12 on page 21.
   - If more than one proctor caching computer will be used, select Create Configuration from the list on the left side of the screen. Select Add and complete the proctor caching configuration, repeating steps 3 on page 20 through 12 on page 21, for each computer.

12. Open a new browser and go to http://<ip-address>::<port> to verify the connection to each proctor caching computer.

   If the ProctorCache interface does not appear, reference the installation instructions. If ProctorCache software is still not installing correctly, note the error code and call ACT for assistance.

Once ProctorCache software is installed and connecting properly, the next step is to cache test content.

## Caching Test Content

Information about precaching test content, verifying that it cached, precaching again if necessary, and purging content after testing is complete.

### Precache Test Content

The test coordinator needs to create all test sessions before the technical coordinator precaches test content for them.

Precache test content within the two business days before each test date.

1. Turn on the proctor caching computer(s) and open the ProctorCache software on these device(s).
   ProctorCache software needs to be running for content to precache.

2. Using a device other than the proctor caching computer, allow browser pop-ups, and then log in to PearsonAccess next at https://testadmin.act.org.

3. Select the Setup icon, then Precache By Test button.

4. Select the test to precache, select the Precache Server, and then select the Precache button.
   A pop-up window opens.

5. Select Precache again.

6. Open a new browser window and go to http://<ip-address>::<port> to verify the connection to the proctor caching computer.
   If the ProctorCache interface does not appear, reference the ProctorCache software installation instructions or contact ACT for assistance.

### TestNav ProctorCache Screens

On the proctor caching computer, the TestNav ProctorCache screen contains Tests and Clients tabs at the top right, that are used to verify that test content cached, and to monitor proctor caching activity during testing.

Columns listed on the Tests tab include:

- **Test**: shows the product that will be administered
- **Form**: lists test form numbers
- **Status**: indicates whether the test content was successfully cached for the test form
- **Entries**: counts the number of examinees who access the test form during testing
- **Cache Date**: displays the date the content was cached
Information on the Clients tab, includes a list of all clients (examinee computers) that recently requested test content. The computers are displayed by name, IP address, and platform.

Verify That Test Content Cached

Verify that test content cached and resolve any issues before testing. Check the status again on the test date before testing. In limited situations, content that had been in the "Green OK" status changes to another status. If this occurs, precache the test content again for only the test sessions that are not a status of "Green OK."

1. Start the proctor caching computer and open the ProctorCache software.
2. Select the Tests tab.
   The Tests screen appears.
3. Review the status of all test sessions.
   • Green OK—content is successfully cached
   • Yellow not loaded—content is not cached
   • Yellow waiting—content is waiting to be loaded
   • Yellow loading—content is currently loading
   • Red failed to load content—caching content failed
   • Red MD5 check invalid—MD5 comparison failed
   • Red MD5 mismatch—MD5 comparison succeeded, but files did not match

   Note: If either Red MD5 message appears, call ACT for assistance.

Refer to the Precache Test Content instructions to resolve issues. Note the error code and call ACT, if assistance is needed.

Monitor Proctor Caching Activity During Testing

During testing, ProctorCache activity may be monitored on the Tests and Clients screens of a proctor caching computer.

1. Start the proctor caching computer and open the ProctorCache software.
2. Select the Tests tab.
   The Tests screen appears.
3. View the Test, Form, Status, Entries, and Cache Date columns.
4. Select the Clients tab, to the right of the Tests tab.
   The Clients screen appears with a list of clients (examinee computers).
5. View the computers by name, IP address, and platform.

Purge Cached Test Content

For test security, test content needs to be purged from proctor caching computers at the end of the testing window.

Note: Do not purge test content until the end of the testing window unless otherwise directed by ACT or Pearson.

1. Start a proctor caching computer and open the ProctorCache software.
2. Select the Tests or the Clients tab.
   To filter the list, enter search criteria and select a value from the drop-down list. Select the Clear button to remove the filter.
3. Select the box beside the test or client to purge.
4. Select the Purge or Purge Client button.
5. Enter the following proctor password in the pop-up window: t35t1n6.
Repeat these steps on every proctor caching computer.

Delete Saved Response and Log Files

Purging test content does not delete saved response files or log files. These files may be deleted after testing is complete.