

PREDICTING COLLEGE SUCCESS OF ENGLISH LEARNERS

BACKGROUND

In the fall of 2017, ACT began providing testing supports (or accommodations) to English Learners (ELs) in the US taking the ACT®, including translated test instructions, word-to-word bilingual dictionaries, small group testing, and extra time. These supports allow students with limited English proficiency to more accurately demonstrate their true achievement level. The purpose of this study is to provide evidence that these supports result in scores that can accurately predict ELs' success in first-year college courses as measured by first-year college GPA.

ACT is committed to ensuring that our assessment claims are supported by evidence. By participating in this study, you can help us evaluate the efficacy of these supports on English learners' college success. This information will also allow you to see how ACT scores are related to first-year college GPA for ELs at your own institution.

DATA COLLECTION

Your institution will submit academic performance data for both EL and non-EL first-year students entering for the first time, including the 2018-19 and/or 2019-20 freshman cohorts. Providing multiple cohorts of data allows for a more comprehensive data analysis and resulting summary of findings for your institution.

Data elements include:

- Student identifiers (e.g., local student ID, full name, birthdate, EL indicator)
- Course information (title, number, content/subject area)
- Grades earned in courses
- First and second term GPA
- CIP major code
- ACT test score and test date (to assist with matching for international students)

Minimum sample requirements: 200 ACT-tested students, including at least 100 ACT-tested EL students.

BENEFITS

Participating institutions will receive an aggregate report of the multi-institutional results, as well as a summary of findings for your institution. We will also be offering a webinar to present the study findings to participating institutions.



NEXT STEPS

To learn more and/or participate, please contact Research.Partnerships@act.org or 319.834.6140. Participation will be on a first come, first included basis.