

Grades 8, 10, and 11 Options

Test Details

Test Characteristics	ACT	Aspire	Explore and Plan	MCA
Accommodations	Use must be approved by ACT based on ADA (not IDEA)	Conforms to APIP Standard	District Determined	Broad range developed with Minnesota Stakeholder Input
Adaptive	No	No	No	Yes or Planned
Alignment	ACT's College Ready Standards – though no published independent alignment study	Common Core – though no published independent alignment study	ACT's College Ready Standards – though no published independent alignment study	Minnesota Academic Standards – independent alignment study available on MDE's site
Alternate Assessments for students with significant cognitive disabilities available	No	No	No	Yes
Available after 2015-2016	Yes	Yes	No	Yes
Career Interest Survey Included	Yes	Not currently	Yes	Not currently
Includes Questions Scored by Humans	Yes	Yes	No	No
Mode	Paper and Online are options Online administered using Pearson's TestNav8*	Paper and Online are options Online administered using Pearson's TestNav8 (through own portal; self-registration not currently an option)	Paper only	Online administered using Pearson's TestNav8

Test Characteristics	ACT	Aspire	Explore and Plan	MCA
Pre-Assessment Available?	No	Yes – price not known	No	Yes – cost to State is less than \$1 per test
Reporting Timelines	Weeks	~6 Weeks	Weeks	Immediate scores available Reports provided weeks later
Reviewed by Minnesota Educators for alignment and sensitivity	No	No	No	Yes
Test Dates created with Minnesota Stakeholder Input	No (1 day w/ Make-up)	Somewhat (3-4 week window)	Somewhat (3-4 week window)	Yes (9 week window)

*Test window would increase from one day to three for online administration

Test Administration

- Grade 8

Subject	Test Design Characteristics	Aspire*	Explore	MCA
English	Number of Questions	45	40	Not Assessed
	Testing Time	35 minutes	30 minutes	Not Assessed
Mathematics	Number of Questions	45	30	48
	Testing Time	65 minutes	30 minutes	~100 minutes (untimed)
Reading	Number of Questions	31	30	74
	Testing Time	60 minutes	30 minutes	~220 minutes (untimed)
Science	Number of Questions	40	28	~60
	Testing Time	55 minutes	30 minutes	~105 minutes (untimed)
Writing	Number of Questions	1	Not included	Not included
	Testing Time	30 minutes	Not included	Not included

* Minnesota could select which subjects to administer

- Grade 10

Subject	Test Design Characteristics	Aspire*	Plan	MCA
English	Number of Questions	62	50	Not Assessed
	Testing Time	40 minutes	30 minutes	Not Assessed
Mathematics	Number of Questions	45	40	Grade 11
	Testing Time	65 minutes	40 minutes	Grade 11
Reading	Number of Questions	31	25	80
	Testing Time	60 minutes	20 minutes	~220 minutes (untimed)
Science	Number of Questions	40	30	~80
	Testing Time	55 minutes	25 minutes	~120 minutes (untimed)
Writing	Number of Questions	1	Not included	Not included
	Testing Time	30 minutes	Not included	Not included

* Minnesota could select which subjects to administer

- Grade 11

Subject	Test Design Characteristics	ACT	MCA
English	Number of Questions	75	Not Assessed
	Testing Time	45 minutes	Not Assessed
Mathematics	Number of Questions	60	72
	Testing Time	60 minutes	~150 minutes (untimed)
Reading	Number of Questions	40	Grade 10
	Testing Time	35 minutes	Grade 10
Science	Number of Questions	40	Grade 10
	Testing Time	35 minutes	Grade 10
Writing	Number of Questions	1	Not included
	Testing Time	30 minutes	Not included

Test Statistics

Details	ACT	Aspire	Explore/ Plan	MCA
Ability to Predict ACT Scale Scores	N/A	Yet to be Publicly Available	0.706 Ex R 0.709 Ex M 0.729 Pl R 0.787 Pl M	0.694 8 R 0.783 8 M 0.694 10 R
Reliability	High 0.85 R 0.91 M	Yet to be Publicly Available	High 0.84 Ex R 0.74 Ex M 0.85 Pl R 0.80 Pl M	High 0.90 R8 0.93 M8 0.88 R10
Test/Item Data Available for State Verification and Analysis	No	No	No	Yes