

WorkKeys

Why is it important?

WorkKeys

- **The National Career Readiness Certificate** assesses critical skills for employability:
 - Graphic Literacy
 - Applied Mathematics
 - Workplace Documents

WorkKeys

- The NCRC serves as a reliable predictor for workplace success of any applicant.
- Thousands of private and public employers now ask for or require NCRC scores as part of the application process.

WorkKeys

- **NCRC is awarded at four levels:**
 - **Platinum**
 - **Gold**
 - **Silver**
 - **Bronze.**
- Level allows employers to know an applicant has met or exceeded the necessary skills for a percentage of the 16,000 occupations.
- For example, a Gold certificate verifies that an individual has the necessary skills for 93% of occupations.

WorkKeys Prep

- **Students will have access to online prep materials**
- **Face to Face targeted instruction will be provided**

'Work Keys' unlock job opportunities

By CHARLES TAYLOR
SENIOR STAFF WRITER



Counties across the country are riding the wave of a growing trend of certifying their communities as "Work Ready."

Nationwide, there are several state-based work-ready initiatives — to demonstrate that their counties' workforce has the skills needed by employers (See "Kentucky Counties Work Ready," County News, Dec. 15, 2014). These top-down efforts are initiated and supported by governors and state economic development officials.

But counties don't have to wait for their states to award work-ready credentials, according to ACT, a nonprofit trust, best known its college admissions exam.

Counties such as Gregg County, Texas and Sweetwater County, Wyo. have taken it upon themselves to get their communities recognized under ACT's Certified Work Ready Communities initiative.

When the program began in 2011, it was only open to states, which then got their counties involved. Now, since 2013, individual counties are able to apply on their own.

"We've got counties and regions that felt such a need to get this initiative up and running, that they didn't want to wait for their state," said Debra Lyons, ACT's vice president for community and economic development.

States or ACT can designate counties as work-ready based on the number of individuals in the local workforce who have earned ACT's National Career Readiness Certificate (NCRC) — and the extent to which businesses recognize, prefer or recommend the certification as a factor in hiring decisions.

Using its Work Keys testing — which includes applied math, reading for information and locating information — ACT evaluates individuals' career readiness for jobs that rely on those skills, which Lyons said ACT research has shown are required for most "middle-skilled"

jobs. In the aggregate, at the workforce level, economic developers can use credential attainment numbers as a selling point.

"It's a credential that companies consider in their location and

See **WORK KEY** page 4

INSIDE THIS ISSUE ▶



America's public lands counties face challenges born of beautiful vistas, constricted tax bases and dwindling federal support. See inside to read County News' special Hot Topics report on the unique issues they face. ▶ Page 7

WorkKeys

List of Employers in Pitt and surrounding counties

WorkKeys

Reference

Practice Test

ACT

American College Testing

WHY IS IT IMPORTANT TO PREPARE FOR THE ACT?

WHY IS IT IMPORTANT TO PREPARE FOR THE ACT?

The ACT measures
what a student has learned in high school.

Colleges and Universities make admission decisions and
measure college readiness based on your ACT scores.

Students have to be competitive!

ACT Admissions for NC Colleges and Universities

School	ACT Range	SAT Range		School	ACT Range	SAT Range
Appalachian State	23 - 28	1060 - 1240		UNC Greensboro	20 - 25	940 - 1110
East Carolina	21 - 24	980 - 1130		UNC Pembroke	18 - 22	830 - 990
Elizabeth City State	17 - 19	760 - 920		UNC Wilmington	23 - 27	1120 - 1260
Fayetteville State	17 - 20	790 - 930		Western Carolina	20 - 24	940 - 1130
NC A&T State	17 - 21	830 - 990		Winston-Salem State	17 - 19	810 - 930
NC Central	17 - 20	810 - 940		Barton	18 - 22	910 - 1090
NC State	26 - 31	1160 - 1330		Campbell	17 - 29	900 - 1350
UNC Asheville	23 - 28	1060 - 1250		Chowan	14 - 16	790 - 950
UNC Chapel Hill	28 - 33	1220 - 1430		High Point	22 - 27	1012 - 1196
UNC Charlotte	22 - 25	1010 - 1180		Shaw	13 - 16	740 - 900

Average ACT Score for Competitive Scholarships

School	Scholarship	ACT
Appalachian State	Diversity Scholars	27
East Carolina	ECU Honors College	27
NC A&T State	Lewis and Elizabeth Dowdy	29
NC State	Park Scholars	29
UNC Chapel Hill	Morehead Cain Scholarship	28
UNC Charlotte	Levine Scholars Program	29
UNC Greensboro	UNC-G Merit	27
Barton	Honors Trustee Scholarship	24
Shaw	Presidential Scholarship	26

WHY IS IT IMPORTANT TO PREPARE FOR THE ACT?

Sometimes students don't perform as well as they could just because they do not know what to expect.

It is important to be prepared for the test!!!

What is on the ACT?

How many sections are on the ACT?

There are 5 main parts of the ACT.

English Test - 75 Questions - 45 Minutes
Mathematics Test - 60 Questions - 60 Minutes
Reading Test - 40 Questions - 35 Minutes
Science Test - 40 Questions - 35 Minutes
Writing Test - 40 Minutes

Each test covers very specific material.

WHY IS IT IMPORTANT TO PREPARE FOR THE ACT?

When students know what to expect,
they can set attainable goals.

Knowing how the test is scored helps
students set those goals.

How is the ACT score calculated?

- A raw score is given on each test.
- Raw Score = The number of questions correct out of the number possible.
- The raw score is converted to a scale score.

What is important to know about scoring?

- Math, English, Science, and Reading are counted equally.
- Your converted scores are added and divided by 4 to get your composite score.
- If you reach the college readiness benchmark on all sections, your ACT score would be a 21.

Access to Online ACT Prep

A world of information.

Lessons that give instruction in EVERY type of question

The screenshot displays the ACT Online Prep interface. The left sidebar contains a navigation menu with the following items: Home, Learning Plan, Game Center, Discussions, Historical Reports, Lessons (highlighted with a green arrow), Flashcards, Practice, Tests, and Essays. The main content area is titled 'English Test - Review' and is divided into two columns. The left column lists 'Overview' and 'General Approaches'. The right column lists various lessons, each with a status icon (a circle with a checkmark or a document icon). A green arrow points to the lesson 'Use Process of Elimination - Try the Answer Choices'.

English Test - Review	
Overview	English Test
General Approaches	Read Everything and Answer as You Go
	Use Process of Elimination - Try the Answer Choices
	Simplify the Answer Choices
	Don't Make New Mistakes
	Consider DELETE and NO CHANGE
Conventions of Standard English	Conventions of Standard English - Overview
	Punctuation Rules
	Good Commas
	Bad Commas
	Commas Example Questions
	Apostrophes
	Apostrophes Example Questions
	Semicolons - Good and Bad
	Colons
	Colons and Semicolons Example Questions
	Parentheses and Dashes
	Parentheses and Dashes Example Questions

Flashcards that cover content specific vocabulary

The screenshot displays the ACT Online Prep web application. On the left is a vertical navigation menu with icons and labels for Home, Learning Plan, Game Center, Discussions, Historical Reports, Lessons, Flashcards, Practice, Tests, and Essays. The 'Flashcards' option is highlighted with a blue background and a green arrow points to it from the left. The main content area has a top header with 'Flashcards: All', 'Study' (underlined), 'My Sets', and 'Community Sets'. Below this is a search bar with a 'Filter' dropdown and a 'View List' button. The central part of the screen shows a large white card with the word 'Acceleration' in the center. In the top right corner of the card area, it says '1 of 450'. At the bottom left of the interface is a 'Support' link with a question mark icon.

ACT Online Prep

Home Learning Plan Game Center Discussions Historical Reports Lessons Flashcards Practice Tests Essays

Flashcards: All Study My Sets Community Sets

Filter View List

1 of 450

Acceleration

Support

Practice Items for each item type on the test

The screenshot shows the ACT Online Prep interface. On the left is a sidebar with navigation links: Home, Learning Plan, Game Center, Discussions, Historical Reports, Lessons, Flashcards, Practice (highlighted with a green arrow), Tests, and Essays. At the bottom of the sidebar is a Support link. The main content area is titled 'Practice' and has a sub-header 'Dashboard'. A large red circle with 'N/A' inside is positioned on the left side of the dashboard. To the right of this circle is a table titled 'Question Categories'. The table has three columns: 'Category Name', 'Completion', and '% Correct'. Below the table, there are statistics for 'Questions Taken' (0 of 2448), 'Avg. Answer Time' (0 min), 'Avg. Correct Answer Time' (0 min), 'Avg. Incorrect Answer Time' (0 min), and 'Avg. Session Duration' (0 min). A 'Reset All Questions' link is located in the top right corner of the dashboard area.

ACT[®] Online Prep

Home Learning Plan Game Center Discussions Historical Reports Lessons Flashcards Practice Tests Essays Support

Practice Dashboard Confidence Levels Notes Bookmarks

Dashboard [Reset All Questions](#)

N/A

Question Categories

Category Name	Completion	% Correct
English	0 of 616	--
Conventions of Standard English	0 of 329	--
Knowledge of Language	0 of 87	--
Production of Writing	0 of 200	--
Mathematics	0 of 842	--
Integrating Essential Skills	0 of 298	--
Preparing for Higher Math - Number and Quantity	0 of 80	--
Preparing for Higher Math - Algebra	0 of 193	--
Preparing for Higher Math - Geometry	0 of 114	--
Preparing for Higher Math - Functions	0 of 130	--
Preparing for Higher Math - Statistics and Probability	0 of 27	--

Questions Taken
0 of 2448

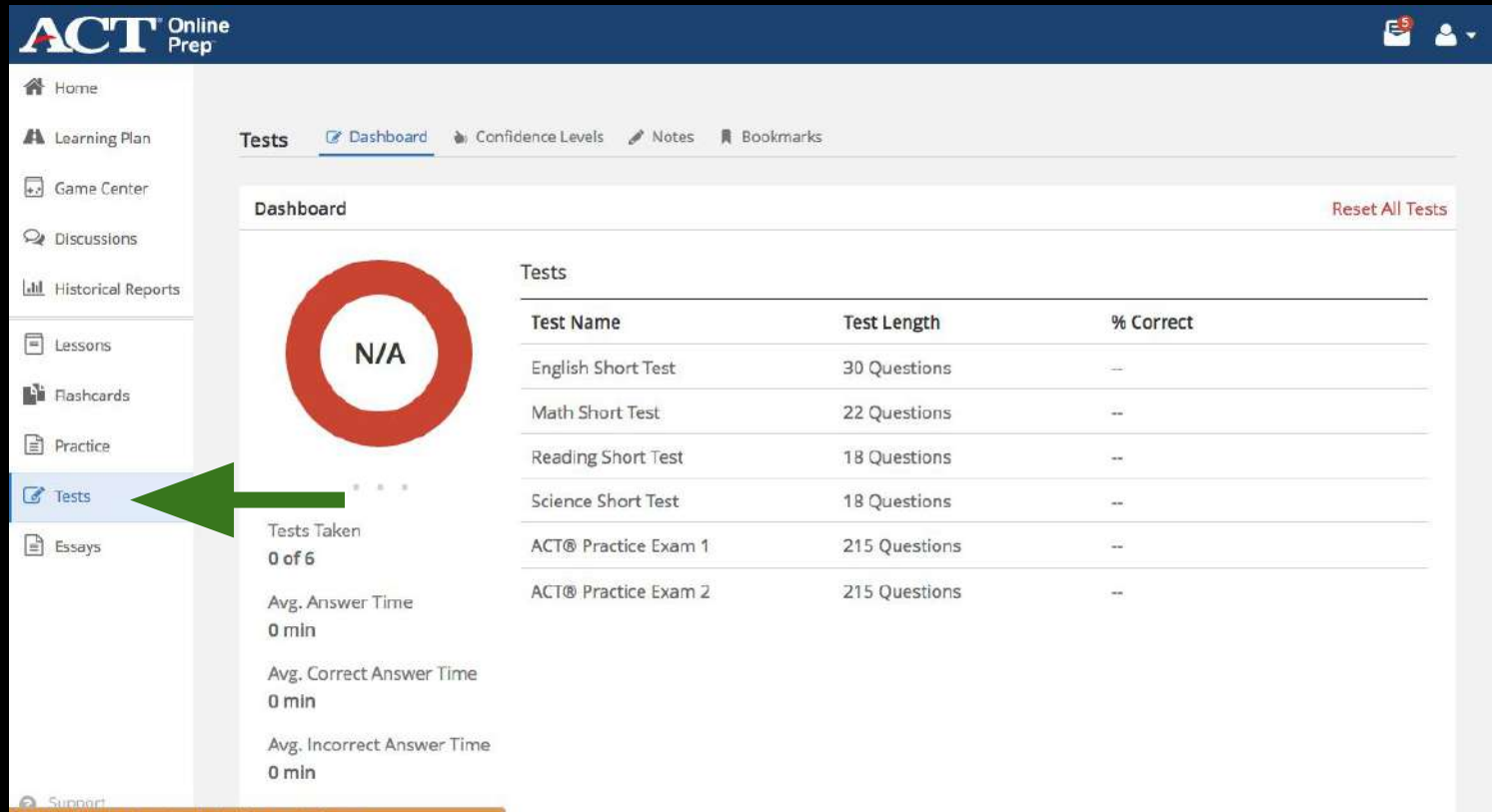
Avg. Answer Time
0 min

Avg. Correct Answer Time
0 min

Avg. Incorrect Answer Time
0 min

Avg. Session Duration
0 min

Short Practice Tests on Each Section



The screenshot displays the ACT Online Prep interface. On the left is a navigation menu with options: Home, Learning Plan, Game Center, Discussions, Historical Reports, Lessons, Flashcards, Practice, Tests (highlighted with a green arrow), and Essays. The main content area is titled 'Tests' and includes sub-tabs for Dashboard, Confidence Levels, Notes, and Bookmarks. The 'Dashboard' tab is active, showing a large red circle with 'N/A' and a 'Reset All Tests' link. Below this is a table of available tests.

Test Name	Test Length	% Correct
English Short Test	30 Questions	--
Math Short Test	22 Questions	--
Reading Short Test	18 Questions	--
Science Short Test	18 Questions	--
ACT® Practice Exam 1	215 Questions	--
ACT® Practice Exam 2	215 Questions	--

Below the table, summary statistics are shown:

- Tests Taken: 0 of 6
- Avg. Answer Time: 0 min
- Avg. Correct Answer Time: 0 min
- Avg. Incorrect Answer Time: 0 min

Two Full Length Tests

The screenshot displays the ACT Online Prep dashboard. On the left is a navigation menu with options: Home, Learning Plan, Game Center, Discussions, Historical Reports, Lessons, Flashcards, Practice, Tests (highlighted with a green arrow), and Essays. The main content area is titled 'Tests' and includes sub-tabs for Dashboard, Confidence Levels, Notes, and Bookmarks. The 'Dashboard' tab is active, showing a large red circle with 'N/A' and a 'Reset All Tests' link. Below this, a table lists tests taken, with 'ACT® Practice Exam 1' and 'ACT® Practice Exam 2' both showing '215 Questions' and '--' for '% Correct', highlighted with a green arrow. Summary statistics on the left include 'Tests Taken 0 of 6' and zero minutes for average answer times.

ACT Online Prep

Home Learning Plan Game Center Discussions Historical Reports Lessons Flashcards Practice **Tests** Essays

Tests Dashboard Confidence Levels Notes Bookmarks

Dashboard [Reset All Tests](#)

Tests

Test Name	Test Length	% Correct
English Short Test	30 Questions	--
Math Short Test	22 Questions	--
Reading Short Test	18 Questions	--
Science Short Test	18 Questions	--
ACT® Practice Exam 1	215 Questions	--
ACT® Practice Exam 2	215 Questions	--

Tests Taken
0 of 6

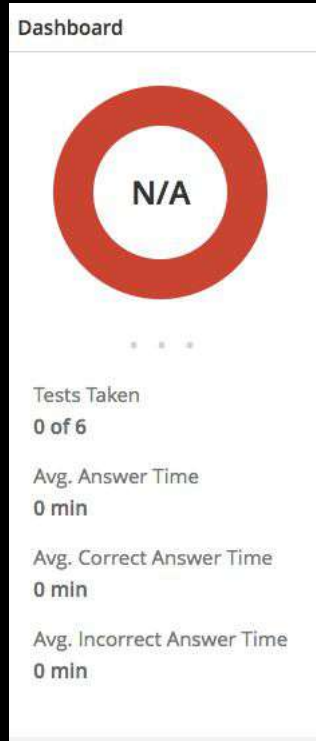
Avg. Answer Time
0 min

Avg. Correct Answer Time
0 min

Avg. Incorrect Answer Time
0 min

Support

Test results



Feedback includes ...

- Average amount of time you spend on each question.
- How much time you spend on each question you get correct.
- How much time you spend on each question you get incorrect.

Two Practice Writing Prompts

The screenshot displays the ACT Online Prep interface. The top navigation bar is dark blue with the ACT Online Prep logo on the left and a notification bell with a red '5' and a user profile icon on the right. A left sidebar contains a list of navigation options: Home, Learning Plan, Game Center, Discussions, Historical Reports, Lessons, Flashcards, Practice, Tests, and Essays (which is highlighted with a blue bar). The main content area is titled 'Essays' and features two side-by-side cards for 'Essay 1' and 'Essay 2'. Each card includes a document icon, the text 'Writing Score' with an information icon, 'Your Score: Not started', and a blue 'Start' button. At the bottom of the page, there is a copyright notice and links for Terms of Use, Privacy Policy, and Contact Support. A URL bar at the very bottom shows the page address.

ACT Online Prep

Home Learning Plan Game Center Discussions Historical Reports Lessons Flashcards Practice Tests Essays

Essays

Essay 1

Writing Score ⓘ
Your Score: Not started

Start

Essay 2

Writing Score ⓘ
Your Score: Not started

Start

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Support
<https://onlineprep.act.org/app/act-online-prep-1m#essays>

Writing Practice Prompts are scored within 24 hours

Essay 1

Overview and Instructions

Writing Test

Directions: This is a test of your writing skills.

On the real ACT exam you will have forty (40) minutes to read the prompt, plan your response, and write an essay in English.

In this Essay module, you will be presented with a prompt and a textbox where you can type your essay. This module is **self-timed**. A timer counting up will begin as soon as you click "Start Writing" to help you manage your time. As you're working, use the "Save" button to preserve your progress without submitting the essay. If you need to take a break, press the "Pause" button - your work will be saved automatically.

After you submit your essay, scoring experts will evaluate and grade it based on the [Scoring Rubric](#). You should receive your score within 24 hours.

Please note: Each Essay prompt can only be attempted one time. You cannot reset them like you can with the Tests or Practice Questions. Make sure you are committed before you start.

Good luck!

[Back to Dashboard](#)

[Start Writing](#)

Game Center has different ways to review for the test

ACT Online Prep

Home | Learning Plan | **Game Center** | Discussions | Historical Reports | Lessons | Flashcards | Practice | Tests | Essays

Game Center | Dashboard | Card Picker | Card Hunter I | Card Hunter II | Card Coupler | Card Sweeper

Card Hunter I

Your highest score: 0
Your rank: Not yet determined
[Start playing](#)

Leaderboard
Top 1: Infinity ∞ - 4547531
Top 2: MICHAEL YESUDAS - 4100265
Top 3: JACOB P. WINTER - 3873425

Card Hunter II

Your highest score: 0
Your rank: Not yet determined
[Start playing](#)

Leaderboard
Top 1: Ahmadre D. A. Darrisaw - 34334
Top 2: Olyvia Knight - 34256
Top 3: MICHAEL YESUDAS - 34236

Card Coupler

Your highest score: 0
Your rank: Not yet determined
[Start playing](#)

Leaderboard
Top 1: LYDIA CROSE - 2653
Top 2: ASHLEY LANDA - 2234
Top 3: ZETTIE BOWLING - 1786

Card Sweeper

Support
<https://onlineprep.act.org/app/act-online-prep-tm/home>

The games require you to apply what you learn in lessons

The screenshot shows a learning management system interface. On the left is a sidebar with navigation options: Home, Learning Plan, Game Center (highlighted), Discussions, Historical Reports, Lessons, Flashcards, Practice, Tests, and Essays. At the bottom of the sidebar is a 'Support' icon. The main content area is titled 'Inversely Proportional' and contains a grid of six cards:

With a negative exponent, take the reciprocal of the base and change the exponent to be positive $x^{-a} = \frac{1}{x^a}$ Ex. $2^{-3} = \frac{1}{2^3} = \frac{1}{8}$	factor of 4. $x \cdot y = k$ e.g. speed and time, volume and density etc. v	indifferent to/toward
Integers that follow each other in order, e.g. 13, 14, 15, 16, 17 etc. These are represented algebraically by x , $x+1, x+2, x+3...$ v	lie, lay, lain	A process of combustion where materials in a fuel are broken down into several by-products.