2014–2015 Alabama College- and Career-Readiness Assessment System

**ACT WorkKeys**

ACT WorkKeys is a job skills assessment system that helps employers select, hire, train, develop, and retain a high-performance workforce. This series of tests measures foundational and soft skills and offers specialized assessments to target institutional needs. As part of ACT's Work Readiness System, ACT WorkKeys has helped millions of people in high schools, colleges, professional associations, businesses, and government agencies build their skills to increase global competitiveness and develop successful career pathways.

**ACT Plus Writing**

The ACT® college readiness assessment contains five curriculum- and standards-based assessments: English, Mathematics, Reading, Science, and an optional Writing Test. The assessment is used as a college admissions and placement test and measures the skills and knowledge needed for first-year college success. Additionally, the ACT includes a career exploration component that stimulates students’ thinking about future plans and relates personal characteristics to career options.

**ACT QualityCore**

ACT QualityCore is a research-based system designed to help schools better prepare all students for college and workforce training. The system includes educator’s resources, formative items and end of course assessments to help students stay on track in English and Algebra. QualityCore also ensures that high school core courses are focused on the most essential postsecondary skills and enables educators to monitor progress toward, and attainment of, those skills.

**ACT Plan**

ACT Plan is a curriculum-based educational and career planning program for 10th graders that measures achievement in English, math, reading, and science. ACT Plan helps students build a solid foundation for future academic and career success and provides information needed to address school districts’ high-priority issues. It is a comprehensive guidance resource that helps students measure their current academic development and make plans for the remaining years of high school and post-graduation years.

**ACT Explore**

ACT Explore is a curriculum-based educational and career planning program for 8th and 9th graders that measures achievement in English, math, reading, and science. The assessment is based on the major areas of high school and postsecondary instructional programs and measures the skills and knowledge needed for college success.

**ACT Aspire**

ACT Aspire is an assessment system that measures academic achievement in English, math, reading, science, and writing in grades 3 through 10. ACT Aspire is linked to the ACT College and Career Readiness Standards, research-based information that makes test results meaningful by connecting a student’s ACT Aspire score to specific skills and knowledge important for college and work success.

*With the transition into ACT Aspire, the last administration of ACT Explore and ACT Plan for Grades 8 and 10 will be October 2014.*