



WELCOME TO ORANGE HIGH SCHOOL!

Parent Information Night
PLAN and ACT



Agenda

- ▣ Introduction and Overview
- ▣ Why are we taking the PLAN and ACT?
 - ▣ What information are we getting from these tests?
- ▣ How are we handling Accommodations for EC, 504, and ELL students?
 - ▣ Where do we go from here?

Why are we taking the PLAN and ACT?

As the state shifts from the NC Standard Course of Study to the new Common Core Standards and a new accountability model, North Carolina high schools will begin administering new required testing for students.



What is the PLAN?

The PLAN is a curriculum-based achievement test in English, Math, Reading and Science that measures college and career readiness, serves as a midpoint assessment and a predictor for the ACT.

Orange High School will administer The PLAN to all students in Grade 10 on December

6. Accommodations for testing are a local decision and must be supported by IEP and 504 documentation.



What is the ACT?

High schools will administer The ACT Plus Writing assessment to all students in Grade 11 on **March 6 with a makeup day on March 20**. The ACT includes the same elements as the PLAN, plus a writing component. **The ACT must approve all accommodations for this test and students must apply in order to have the test count towards college admission.**



Will these tests be used for Accountability?

The NC Department of Public Instruction approved the implementation of the ACT in preparation for the state's new accountability model and to provide additional diagnostic tools for students and their teachers.

This year, the ACT will not count for accountability purposes although the test results can be used by students for college admissions purposes. Next year the ACT will count as part of ABCs and as part of the 95 percent requirement for testing.

The PLAN is only used for diagnostics. It is not considered as part of accountability calculations at this time.

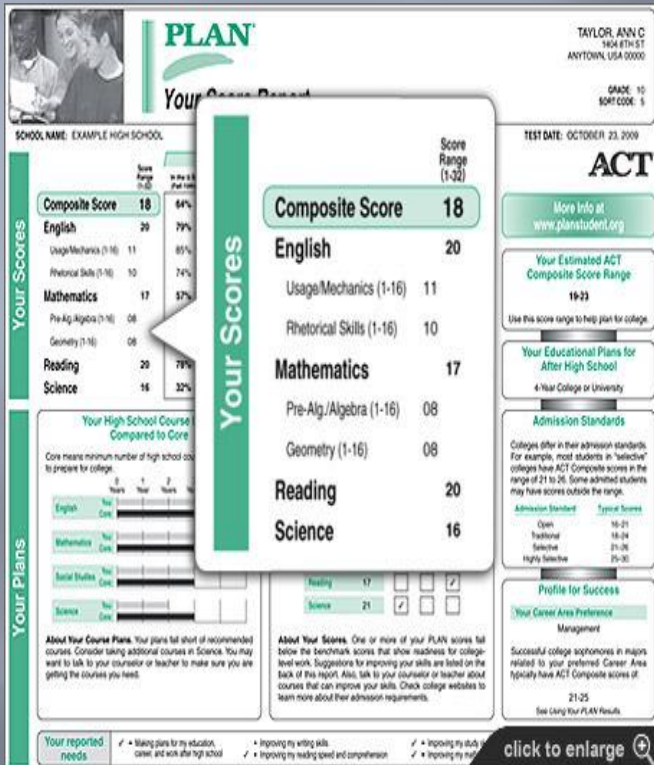
What information are we getting from these tests?

Your scores are between 1 (the lowest score you can receive) and 32 (the highest score you can receive). PLAN takes the number of questions you got right on each test and translates it into a number between 1 and 32.

Just like grades, your scores tell you how well you did on each test.

Your Composite score is simply the average of your test scores in English, Mathematics, Reading, and Science (rounded to a whole number).

The two scores directly under English and Math only range from 1 to 16. They tell you how well you did in two specific areas of each subject. These scores added together do NOT necessarily equal your English or Math Test scores.



ACT vs. SAT

❖ ACT

- ❖ Questions are written by high school teachers
- ❖ 4 Subjects: English, Math, Reading, and Science
- ❖ Writing is Optional
- ❖ Scoring

❖ SAT

- ❖ Stronger emphasis on Vocabulary
- ❖ Questions written by college professors
- ❖ 3 Subjects: Critical Reading, Math, Writing
- ❖ Scoring

How are we handling Accommodations for EC and 504 students?

There is not an ACT-Approved process for PLAN accommodations. However, PLAN accommodations' requests should be supported by the students' IEPs or Section 504 Plans.

For those students in grade 11 taking the ACT, there is an approved accommodation application process that must be completed by the school's Test Accommodations Coordinator (TAC). The TAC (appointed by the school principal) submits to ACT an application for ACT-Approved accommodations plus supporting documentation for each student requiring accommodations (receipt deadline is December 16)

How are we handling Accommodations for EC, 504, and ELL students?

Accommodation Options

ACT-Approved Accommodations result in ACT scores that are fully reportable to colleges, scholarships, and other entities.

- Currently on an Individualized Education Program (IEP) or Section 504 Plans
- Professionally Diagnosed and Documented Disability

State-Allowed Accommodations result in ACT scores that are not college-reportable; they are used for state accountability purposes only.

- Limited English Proficiency (LEP) students who do not have a disability but receive accommodations in school

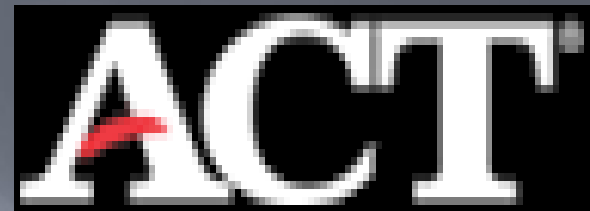
Helpful Websites

<http://www.dpi.state.nc.us/docs/accountability/testing/actplanfaq.pdf>

<http://www.act.org/aap/northcarolina/>

<http://www.actstudent.org/testprep/index.html>

Where do we go from here?



Questions?